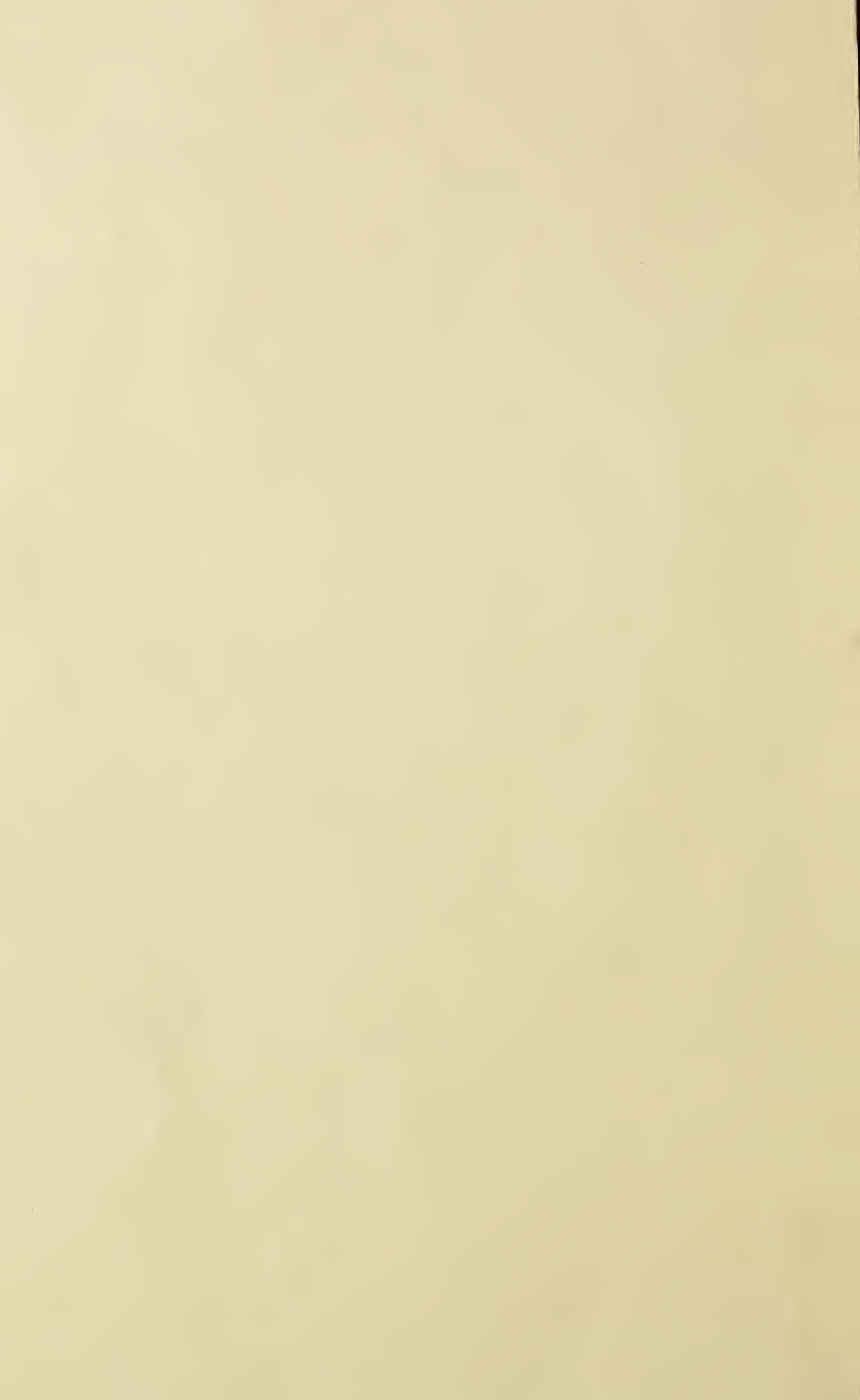


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# THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO  
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,



LIVE STOCK  
and RURAL ECONOMY.

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BALTIMORE, MAY, 1884.

No. 5.

## Proposed Agricultural Show.

A NATIONAL ANNUAL CATTLE AND PRODUCE DISPLAY ADVOCATED.

Agriculture, upon which depends the welfare of a large proportion of our people, should be cared for in a way and to an extent commensurate with its importance. The successful prosecution of all other industries depends very materially upon agriculture. Foreign bound ships are loaded with beef fattened upon American pastures, with the butter and cheese produced in American dairies, and with wheat and corn grown on American fields, and the fact that the farmers of this country can produce these things for export adds to the prosperity of the whole country. Agriculture has been the primary cause of our attaining our present population of fifty odd millions of people, and is a guaranty of a still greater increase of population. Agriculture and kindred industries should be fostered in every legitimate way. The spread of contagious diseases of farm-stock should be prevented. Experiment stations and agricultural colleges should be founded and supported. And these things have been attempted and accomplished to a certain extent by the national and State governments, and have resulted in good to farmers generally. There is one step, however, which should be taken by stock-breeders and farmers throughout the country, and this will be attempted as soon as our leading farmers and stock-breeders become awake to their own interests in the matter. I refer to the establishment of a national agricultural and fine stock show. English farmers have their "Royal Agricultural Show," in which they take an almost personal pride, and being migratory—held first in one principal city and next

year in another in a different part of the country—much good is accomplished. Our different States have their State agricultural exhibitions, and some of these fairs are grand institutions; but they are largely local, although on a more extensive scale than town and county fairs. What the welfare of our agriculture demands is a permanent exhibition, of national character, of fine stock and agricultural products from the entire country. Our farmers require a national exhibition, at which the antipodes of our stock-breeding and agricultural products can be exhibited.

A national agricultural exhibition and cattle show should be held one year at one and the second year at some other place. The most available centre for such an exhibition, at the present writing appears to me to be Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, with perhaps a circle of cities outside of these, and not omitting a first-class locality in New York. I believe that at any of these places an exhibition could be held, which would prove a good success. I believe that any one of these localities could and would furnish suitable grounds and buildings, and that gate receipts would prove ample for premiums and other expenses. I know that this may be considered a rose colored view of this matter, but I know whereof I speak when I say farmers and stockbreeders generally are prepared to take hold of this matter enthusiastically. Such an exhibition, as I have suggested would be an exponent of our national progress in the breeding of fine and pure bred stock, and in other agricultural industries. We have in this country to-day, all the breeds of farm stock that are worth breeding. Our dairying and general agriculture, are second to those of no other country in the world, and thus we have the material actually waiting to make a mammoth agri-

cultural exhibition and a fine stock show. Let us have it.—Forrest K. Moreland, in *New York Herald* of 23rd March, 1884.

[We think well of this plan.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

### Farm Work for May.

This is always a busy month on the farm, but is peculiarly so this year as the season is behind time at least 30 days, owing to the long protracted wet and cold weather in the months of March and April. Plowing and seeding oats were greatly delayed, and all vegetation very backward. It truly has been a trying winter and spring to the husbandman. It hence is necessary that extra exertions should now be made to enable him to make up for the lost time thus enforced upon him. Oats and grass seeds we hope have at last been sown, and though very late we trust they may do well through means of a future propitious season.

#### Tobacco.

We have never known tobacco seed sown generally so late as in the present year. The plants from late sown seed are always tender, with few roots and require careful planting in a good season. Planted after a light rain, and followed by hot sun and drying winds, they will wither and die, when plants from seed sown early, with small leaves and bunchy roots will be sure to live. Keep the plant beds free from weeds and grass and thin the plants by hand or rake to stand half an inch apart at least. Sow over them plaster, soot and tobacco dust in equal quantity, mixed with one pound of flour of sulphur to the bushel of mixture to keep off the fly, and stimulate at same time the growth of the plants. Embrace any opportunity, that the weather may offer by unfitness for out door work, to continue preparing last year's crop for market.

#### Corn.

Plant this crop, but only on rich, or highly manured and fertilized land, after thorough preparation. Plant in hills or drills, but be sure and allow distance enough for air and sun—5 feet by 18 inches is a good distance for drilled corn, one stalk in a place. If in hills 40 inches apart, each way with 2 stalks in a hill. If corn is "suckered" it should be done when the suckers are small, so the main stalk will not suffer from the bleeding that always exhausts more or less. After being planted, corn should be often harrowed with a smoothing harrow until it is 6 in-

ches high, and then cultivated weekly so as to keep the weeds down and the soil light and open, to permit air, and both ascending and descending moisture. A small shower on a well pulverized soil will do much good, when it would be of no material benefit on a hard, baked crust.

#### Potatoes and Roots.

Sow seeds of mangels, sugar beet, carrot and parsnip early and ruta-baga late, in the month, on deeply plowed, rich and well prepared ground—in drills. Plant the bulk of your potatoes for late crop. Be sure and try a few of the lately introduced varieties on a small scale by way of an experiment to test their respective qualities and let the MARYLAND FARMER readers have next autumn the result of your tests, mode of cultivation, fertilizers used, state of the weather, products, &c. Give us plain facts that all may be thereby benefitted.

#### Pumpkins.

When the corn is thinned, plant pumpkin seeds among the corn rows, close to the corn, they will not injure the corn but yield a good crop for fall and winter feeding of the stock. They make excellent feed for cows and hogs and are much relished by them.

#### Millet, Corn-broadcast, Oats, Peas, &c.

These may be sown the last of this month, for ensilage feeding green to stock, or to be cut and cured into winter-provender. Any of these however, may be sown in June or July for such purposes.

#### Sweet Potatoes.

Set out slips on ridges made over a coat of rich stable manure. These little ridges made by two back-furrows thrown together, and placed 3 feet apart; the plants 18 inches or two feet apart in the drill. This wholesome and very popular vegetable is easily grown with little labor, ought to be more generally found on our farms. Why it has been neglected so long and money spent to obtain it every year in our markets by our farmers, is incomprehensible, when they can raise it as easily as corn or the Irish (white) potatoe.

#### Field Beans, Peas, &c.

After the middle of the month, sow beans or peas if intended for seed or to be sold as dry beans or peas. Sow thinly in drills 30 inches apart, or in hills 30 inches by 18 inches apart. If intended to be plowed under as green manure, later sowing will be better, and may be sown broadcast and thicker. Any way and for any purpose they are highly profitable. Every farmer should sow plentifully each year for one or



the other purpose, either beans or peas, the latter commonly called "cow peas," but are said to be really beans.

#### Whitewashing.

Commence your whitewashing at once; clean out all the out buildings, and whitewash them inside and outside, and run your brush over all the pailing or plank fencing, and posts and rails you can find the time to devote to such work. It is healthful, and brightens up things amazingly about an old or new homestead.

#### Orchards.

Trim and thin out the too thickly growing limbs and sprouts near the bodies of the fruit trees, and wash the body and larger portion of the limbs of the trees with a solution of 1 pint of ashes,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pint of salt, and one pint of soft soap to one gallon of water, with a little sulphur. Some prefer washing them with a weak whitewash made of lime and salt. Dig around the peach, apricot and plum trees, and kill the worms; sprinkle some lime with a little salt, and level the earth after being worked up around the trees.

An Ohio farmer washes his apple trees every spring and fall with a strong lye that will float an egg, and finds it to be sure death to the borers. He claims that he has not lost a tree since beginning this practice, although he had lost several previously.

#### Manuring.

It is presumed that all the manure you have will be drawn out this month for use by your spring and summer crops, and we would urge you to begin securing, saving and getting together every material in your power for composting, or in other ways converting it into manure during summer, so you can have a large supply on hand for use the coming fall, when you are preparing to sow your wheat and setting down meadows, or for top-dressing your grass lands early next winter. It would be well to have on hand a lot of well decomposed manure to top dress your meadows as soon as the hay is taken off.

#### Clover.

Cut clover for hay as soon as the blossoms appear, generally over the field. The hay will be better for thus early cutting.

#### Bearing Stock.

We cannot forego the expression of a desire that is ever present to our mind, of seeing our farmer friends paying more regard and taking a deeper interest in stock raising. Let us now plead for the lives of the best calves, particularly cow calves, and beg our friends to save them for

at least two years from the butcher. They will be well repaid for a generous treatment of these young animals for two years, and better, for three years. Save the best cow calves, and breed at the proper time to improved bulls. Save the best ewe lambs to supply the places of old and inferior ewes to be sold this autumn. Every two years get the services of a buck superior or fully equal to its predecessor, and you will soon have a superior flock of sheep. The same in regard to hogs. We would suggest that every farmer who has a fine mare, and can dispense with her services for a month or so, should breed her to some superior blood horse of high pedigree, good points and a large size, and fine action, and the produce will be worthy the expense and inconvenience, for a useful serviceable horse of all work will be obtained, or it may be an animal worth thousands of dollars. No such "good luck" will result from breeding a worthless mare to a barrel of corn runt, or a beefy overgrown monster. We despise these picayune stallions, and cannot either admire or believe in those who only boast of the enormity of size and weight. If they were grown to be eaten, then, like Short Horn cattle, the larger and heavier they were the better; but until we become a hippopohagous people, we must decline assenting to the propriety of breeding to these elephantine beasts. The medium sized, active, enduring, sinewy, high-mettled animal is what the people want for all purposes, the plow, the saddle and quick draft on the road, to either the heavy farm wagon or the light family carriage.

Why should the people of the South and the Middle Border States pay such immense sums annually, for Western and Northern horses and mules from Kentucky and the north-west? We can raise the supply needed, better suited to our climate and work, at small cost of either labor or food. It takes no more to raise a horse or mule than to grow an ox, or five hogs two years old, and the horse or mule will at three years old, be worth twice as much as the ox at the same age, or the hogs at two years old. A couple of horses or mules raised every year on each farm would supply our home demand.—On many farms, half or more of the profits go to keep up the stock of horses and work cattle, and often on such farms there is wasted more food than would subsist enough young stock to supply the wants of the farm. But our planters and farmers ought to look to breeding horses and mules and raising oxen, not only to furnish working stock for their individual wants, but as a source of yearly revenue to swell largely the receipts of the farm.

Let it be remembered that the blooded horse is admitted to be more capable of resisting disease, will last longer, and do better service than the common breeds.

A judicious crossing of the Norman Percheron with the race horse, beginning with a common, well formed mare will give a breed of horses, remarkable for size, endurance, speed, activity and health. Let our farmers look well to their interest in this matter, for they may be assured there is a fortune in it.

#### Drains and Ditches

See that these are clean and free from impediments, and that the outlets are working properly. Cover all outlets of under ground drains with wire cloth to prevent the entrance of rabbits and other small animals that often take refuge therein and stop up effectually the drain.

### Garden Work for May.

This is perhaps, the busiest month in the year with the gardener who desires early and late supplies of vegetables in abundance. Nearly all the beds must be filled with something this month, and the grass grows now with great rapidity, requiring watchfulness and industry to keep it in subjection. The root crops, such as beets and carrots, &c., are to be thinned, and plants from the hot beds are to be transplanted into cold frames, and some to be again transplanted into other frames or in the open ground.

**Cabbage Plants.**—These are to be planted out in well manured land, where cabbages have not been grown for at least three years; they dislike being planted on the same ground in successive years. Sow seeds for late crop of Flat Dutch, American Drum Head Savoy, green curled Savoy, and Red Pickling Cabbage.

**Brocoli and Cauliflower.**—Sow seeds of these for late fall crops.

**Peppers.**—May yet be sown in a rich bed. The different varieties should be planted a distance apart, or they will intermix and be hybrids, neither one thing nor the other. Set out the plants grown in the hot-bed.

**Corn.**—Plant more early corn for a succession of this delightful vegetable.

**Sweet Potatoes.**—Plant these early this month.

**Beans.**—Plant Lima and other pole beans this month, in the hills directed to be made last month. Sow a few rows every ten days of snap or string beans; the best of these is the White Wax Bean, delicious, free from strings; they are eatable as soon as the pods are a yellowish white color. Boil them tender, chop them up, put

them in a stew-pan with butter, pepper, salt and some cream or rich gravy from pork or fowls, let them stew a few minutes, and serve them hot, and you have a delectable dish of what the French term "haricot ragout."

**Watermelons and Canteloupes.**—Plant these the very first of the month, in hills, and cultivate as suggested elsewhere in this number. These vines should be planted in separate patches, a long way apart if possible, to prevent mixture, although the general practice is to put them in the same bed.

**Cucumbers.**—Plant your principal crop of cucumbers early. When they come up, keep them dusted with soot and a little sulphur, or cover them with hand glasses or gauze, to protect them from the flies and bugs until they get into the rough leaf. When they begin to form the blossom, pinch off the ends of the vines; they will then branch and bear fruit earlier and longer. For pickles, plant in July.

**Brussels Sprouts.**—Sow the seeds of these for plants to be set out in July.

**Salading.**—Sow seeds of small salading of all sorts. They never come amiss.

**Beets.**—Sow the long, red beet for fall and winter use. The Egyptian beet for early use.

**Turnips.**—Work and thin your early turnips, and sow more seeds for a succession of the crop.

**Radish.**—Sow a few seeds often of this nice breakfast and tea relish, that you may always have them crisp and tender for use. To have them so, the bed must be extremely rich, that they may grow rapidly.

**Spinach.**—Sow some spinach two or three times this month. It is a wholesome and popular vegetable, and cannot well be too often brought on the table.

**Lettuce.**—Set out more lettuce plants, and sow seed on the border. Tie up such as are about to head.

**Squash and Cymlings.**—Plant cymlings for summer use, and Hubbard squash for winter use. The Hubbard keeps all winter, and cooks dry and sweet; it is inestimable to the house-keeper, and valued by every lover of fresh vegetables in winter.

**Pot-Herbs.**—Sow the seeds of pot-herbs in a somewhat shaded spot, keep the ground moist until they come up.

**Nasturtiums.**—Plant nasturtiums this month; they are ornamental, and some can be planted in the flower garden. They make a nice pickle, and the blossoms and bud-leaves are a good pungent relish with bread and butter.

**Salsify.**—Sow some salsify seed for winter crop.



*Okra*.—Plant okra for general crop this month.

*Egg Plant*.—Set out egg plants the last of the month. They should have been, or must at once be transplanted from hot-beds to cold frames, so as to grow stocky and strong. to be taken up with a ball of earth, and put in open ground, when the weather gets settled and warm, where they will grow right off, not checked by the transplanting but benefitted.

*Endive*.—Sow seeds of endive early, and for second or late crop, the last of the month. Well blanched, this plant is much liked by those fond of salads. It comes in well after lettuce season is over. It is a graceful, pretty dish on a table.

*Borecole*.—Sow seeds of borecole, that a sufficient quantity of this species of cabbage may be planted out for winter use. Standing out all winter it furnishes on its tall stalks the nicest sprouts in early spring that are to be had. We deem them superior to the famous Brussels sprouts, or the common cabbage sprouts. They are very saleable at a high price in market.

*Grape-Vines*.—Of course your grape-vines have been pruned and tied to the stakes or trellises.—Now work about them, and throw coal-ashes around them, two or three inches deep for a couple of feet on each side of a vine.

*Garden Implements*.—A good wheelbarrow is a necessity. No implement equals it in utility about the garden, or on the farm for that matter. They are not expensive. Select one with reference to lightness and strength, as the boys are often delegated to use it. The common dirt-barrow is the best.

**TIME IS MONEY.**—Time and money will be saved by keeping Kidney-Wort in the house. It is an invaluable remedy for all disorders of the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, and for all diseases arising from the obstructions of these organs. It has cured many obstinate cases after hundreds of dollars had been paid to physicians without obtaining relief. It cures Constipation, Piles, Billiousness and all kindred disorders. Keep it by you.

**THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.**—No family Dyes were ever so popular as the Diamond Dyes. They never fail. The Black is far superior to logwood. The other colors are brilliant. Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt.

THE March number of the *Maryland Farmer*, is on our table. The *FARMER* is the oldest agricultural journal in Maryland and one of the best published in that State. Price, one dollar per year.—*The Monticello Farmer and Grape Grower*,

For the Maryland Farmer.

## The Effect of Improved Farm Implements Upon Farm Labor.

The great want of farming districts is labor. Machinery is being largely substituted for hand labor, and yet to make farming pay, requires the best cultivation, to which end hand labor to some extent is demanded.

Dependence has to a great extent been placed upon the foreign element of population,—largely the Irish and German; but these, especially the latter, have become too much Americanized to be profitably employed, and are buying farms for themselves, or earning wages in other employments as best they can.

It has been said that the higher the quality of labor, the greater the product, and, consequently the profit. High prices for labor are, as a general rule, supposed to bring brains into exercise; so, the owners of the soil cannot afford to teach the principles of agriculture to those who are ignorant of the same, with a payment of much wages.

Each year is bringing the methods of agriculture more in accordance with the demands of the age. According to every other enterprise of a productive nature, cheap labor is dearest, and *vice versa* labor that is more expensive is cheapest in the end.

Now, it requires no demonstration to prove that where any machine possesses a combination of mechanical principles, although the same may be operated for a time with success, the absolute success of running such machine depends upon the knowledge of the operator of the principles that govern the machine. It results very much to the disadvantage of any farmer to run himself, or set any other person at running a machine without such knowledge. The effect may be a great loss of power, or excessive injury to the machine itself.

This may be noticed particularly in the operation of mowing machines; from a little want of proper care, a machine may be made to require twice the amount of power to run it that it would if properly cared for; and this may not be the result of willful negligence, but from a want of a proper knowledge of the requirements of the machine. No person who has ever practiced mowing with a hand scythe, need be re-

minded of the difference in power required according as the scythe is hung in one manner or another, or was in good cutting order or otherwise, and yet precisely the same rule applies to all machines, only to a greater degree in consequence of a vast amount of friction that must be overcome.

The thought has arisen sometimes, in passing meadows that have been shorn of their verdure by the mowing machine, that the operator had a poor idea of a machine in good condition, when the field had the appearance of having the grass torn off, rather than nicely and cleanly cut as it should be by a machine in good working order. Therefore the position is believed to be tenable, that the use of improved agricultural implements, as in all other occupations, necessitates the employment of labor of a much higher order, so far as skill and intelligence is concerned. But as a general rule in those towns where labor is employed to a considerable extent, it has been of a class of foreign birth that were generally illiterate; and the same has been carried to such an extent, that in such towns it is a rare thing to find an active and intelligent person of American parentage employed as a hired farm laborer. This has had much to do in driving young men of ambition and a fair share of pride to seek other employments.

As a writer in Worcester county, Mass. has expressed it: "Farming by the old stand-by native farmers is becoming of less and less interest. Their sons leave the farm for other employment. Consequently the foreign element is buying many of the best farms to the discouragement of those who remain; but few improvements are made, and the general tone of farming is decreasing."

Why is this so? For the reason that intelligence has given place in too many instances to mere physical force.

Nor is the intervention of machinery to result in diminishing the number of laborers; the same number will be employed and perhaps more; but as before stated, the effect must inevitably be to call into existence a class of workmen of a higher, mental order. A writer has said: "there are but few farms that are carried on by foreign help that show so great a degree of thrift as the same farm did under Yankee culture a quarter of a century ago." Farm-

ing should not admit of ignorance any more than other kinds of business.

In speaking of the use of machinery, another has said, "it is being employed extensively and the effect of its use is good. It enlarges the breadth of cultivation. It sifts out unprofitable laborers. It does not reduce the wages of competent and efficient laborers. Skilled, faithful labor is rendered more valuable in consequence of machinery." Then the introduction of all farm-machinery should be realised as the harbinger of better days to the farmer, whereby skill and intelligence shall again be called to the farm, and the farmer in truth occupy the noble position which his occupation calls him to. When intelligence not only superintends, but performs the operations of the farm; the sons who have strayed away will again return to the old roof-tree and happiness reign supreme.

Hon. Allen W. Dodge, of Hamilton, Essex county, Mass., has given utterance to sentiments that are a fitting conclusion of this subject. Said he, "could anything be more insulting to the farmers of New England and their boys, than a depreciation of knowledge, theoretical or scientific as applied to agriculture? The more ignorant, the sons of our farmers, the better fitted to take the place of their fathers! We have heard from some source that ignorance is the mother of devotion. It was left for the enlightened nineteenth century, and our enlightened country, to discover and give currency to the great truth, that ignorance is the mother of all good farming!"

Who wonders that our boys should flee from the farm, where brood only darkness and despair, to more sunny and hopeful skies? Surely, if any one method could be devised sure to accomplish the depopulation of the rural districts, this is it. Doomed, forever doomed to grope and delve in ignorance, where light and hope never come, this will degrade labor and doubly disgrace the laborer. But may we not hope for better things? May we not confidently look for the union of science with practice, so that the young man and woman, who, in the future, are to carry on our farms, will draw from them such benefits as to lighten toil and make it more profitable." WILLIAM H. YEOMANS, Columbia, Conn.



## Tests of Seed Corn, at the Ohio Experiment Station.

Thirty-four of the 200 samples thus far tested, germinated 100 per cent., that is every kernel sprouted. Seventy samples are above ninety and less than 100 per cent.; 39 are above 75 and less than 90 per cent.; 6 fall below 20 per cent. The remainder range between 20 and 75 per cent.

To illustrate the vitality of corn kept under different conditions, and taken from different parts of the ear, attention is called to the following tables:

TABLE I.

Selected ears from corn stored in crib, 100 kernels each taken from the tips, middles and butts of 100 ears.

	Tips.	Middles.	Butts.
Sample 1....	78 per ct.	64 per ct.	78 per ct.
" 2....	70 "	40 "	70 "
" 3....	72 "	38 "	80 "
" 4....	33 "	14 "	44 "
" 5....	85 "	18 "	47 "
" 6....	73 "	43 "	71 "

TABLE II.

Selected ears, dried by artificial heat, and stored in small quantities together in dry rooms.

	Tips.	Middles.	Butts.
Sample 1....	100 per ct.	93 per ct.	93 per ct.
" 2....	99 "	100 "	100 "
" 3....	99 "	99 "	99 "
" 4....	96 "	100 "	96 "
" 5....	100 "	100 "	98 "
" 6....	92 "	94 "	98 "

Occasionally a sample taken from the crib is better than one from corn-dried, and carefully stored, but it is the exception, and not the rule.

Samples taken from 17 choice, single ears of different varieties, each thoroughly dried and carefully preserved, showed a germination of 100 per cent. for 13 ears, and 96 per cent. for the remainder. The importance and necessity of selecting kernels from a large number of ears, in order to get a fair average sample, is well seen in the tests of two samples of 100 kernels from each of two ears. These ears were taken from a large crib, and each was supposed to fairly represent the vitality of what would be selected for seed.

One sample germinated 100 per cent. The other, under exactly the same conditions, germinated but 2 per cent.

At least 750,000 bushels of seed corn are used annually, in the State of Ohio.

The Station urges every farmer to make sure of the quality of what he plants.

Good seed is the foundation of successful corn culture.

WILLIAM R. LAZENBY, *Director.*

Columbus, March 21, 1884.

## German Potash Salts.

In answer to enquiries of a correspondent, the *American Rural Home*, gives the following sensible and careful replies:—

"Kainit, or German potash salts, is mined from the earth in the vicinity of Stassfurt, Germany. These mines, discovered not many years since, are very extensive; and are considered by some inexhaustible. Its analysis shows that it contains

	Per ct.
Sulphate of potash.....	24 80
Sulphate of magnesia.....	14 30
Chloride of magnesia.....	12.62
Chloride of Sodium (common salt)...	30.00
Moisture.....	14.36
Insoluble matter.....	1.92

100.00

The only ingredient in the compound of any considerable value as plant food, is the sulphate of potash, forming nearly 25 per cent. of the entire weight. Of this, about one-third is potassium, the basis of potash. This would show that Kainit contains about 8 per cent. of potassium or 16 per cent. of potash.

In answer to the second question, the German potash salts can be purchased in all the large cities, and of many of the dealers in super-phosphate. We notice that Philadelphia dealers offer to sell it on the cars, at \$14 a ton.

In answer to the third question, potash is only one, and probably the least valuable of the three articles of plant food contained in a genuine super-phosphate. The other ingredients are nitrogen and phosphoric acid. It is the general opinion of those who have carefully examined our soils, that phosphoric acid is more generally deficient in available quantity to produce large yields of crops than potash. Perhaps for some special crops, the German salts alone, may prove an economical fertilizer, but for general crops, an honest article of super-phosphate would be much to be preferred.

Wood ashes would be more valuable, containing as they do some phosphoric acid, but they would probably cost more.

### Farmers Should Study Agricultural Journals.

At a late meeting of the Western New York Farmer's Club, miscellaneous subjects were discussed. One was, the benefit derived from attending agricultural meetings and reading agricultural papers. On this subject Mr. Henry Quinby made the following reasonable and very sensible remarks, which we heartily commend to all our Southern farmers, and all others interested in agriculture. "Do we realize how small a proportion of the farmers ever take an agricultural paper? Most farmers take only a political newspaper. Among farmers in good circumstances, he did not believe that one in ten take an agricultural paper. He thought it because they are ignorant of the value of a live agricultural journal. In a pecuniary sense they would be repaid the cost, many times over. Has often heard farmers say that they had been saved many times the cost of subscription by a single article in their agricultural paper. Many good farmers who disparage papers devoted to their calling, do not hesitate to adopt any practice by a neighbor that increases the yield of crops when, perhaps, if that neighbor had written an account of his methods for an agricultural paper, he would have decried it as book-farming. The best agricultural journals are largely 'made up' of the experiences of our best farmers. We ought to have this room crowded to-day, with farmers."

### Ensilage and Silo in England.

"The Chamber's Journal," a paper of world-wide fame, in a late article on this subject remarks: "There is now little doubt as to the value of ensilage as food for cattle, for there is abundant testimony from various parts of the country where the experiment has been tried of building silos, that beasts thrive upon the compressed food that had been stored therein. For instance, its value as a fattening food for cattle, has been demonstrated upon Mr. Stobart's estate, at Northallerton, by a carefully conducted trial. Twelve beasts were divided into two lots of six each. All were alike given same quantity of meal and cake. Besides this, one lot received daily, each beast, twenty-four and a half pounds of hay, and ninety-five pounds of turnips;

the other lot receiving in lieu of hay and turnips, seventy-five pounds each of ensilage. At the beginning of the experiment, the animals were weighed separately. At the end of one month they were again weighed; all, of course, showed a great advance, but those fed on ensilage totaled up a figure which was forty-nine pounds better than the total exhibited by those fed in the more orthodox style."

### Requirements of all Crops

Every kind of crop requires certain elements common to all, to be in or added to the soil, in order to be grown in perfection. When we supply to our long cultivated soil, potash, phosphoric acid and nitrogen in sufficiency, we have with the addition of what the lands will supply, the elements essential to the successful culture of any and all farm crops. Stable manure contains these fertilizing elements in the best known form for application to our land. Every fertile soil contains enough of the aforesaid constituents to produce one or more good crops; but every crop taken from the land reduces the supply, 'till at last we come to an *exhausted*, (worn out) soil, similar to what has occurred to thousands of acres in all of our oldest settled farm sections, where the land has been cropped in cotton, tobacco, corn, &c. without manure for many years. The progressive farmer learns that his soil must be fed, somewhat on the same principle that he feeds his cows, but less frequently—once a year, in some cases once in several years—answers all the requirements in a regular rotation. But the question comes up, how shall we feed our land, with stable manure, or with commercial fertilizers? From my standpoint, I answer with stable manure, if one can obtain or make enough. Leave the commercial fertilizers as a last resort, or to feed the one crop. Their proper place is in connection with stable manure, similar to the dessert following the principal dishes of a dinner. —*Harry, in Germantown Telegraph.*

THE *Maryland Farmer* for April, opens with an electro-photograph of Hon. George Colton, the presentation of which cannot but be acceptable to its readers. It also is full of excellent articles of interest to the farmer, the gardener, the household, poulterer, &c. \$1 per year in advance; Ezra Whitman, Editor, 141 W. Pratt St., Baltimore.—*Emmitsburg Chronicle.*



**Adulterated Food.**

Selling lard for butter, may be no worse than selling chicory for coffee, or spirea leaves for China tea, to unsuspecting persons, nor any worse than many other things in every-day practice, but a multiplicity of wrongs does not make any one of them right. Adulterations are common. There is hardly a thing in the line of food and medicine, that is not in some way tampered with, to the detriment of the purchaser, in respect to property or health. This whole business of fraud by adulteration, has become such a common and crying evil as to demand a correction. What are wanted, are stringent laws by the general Government, to cover every thing in the nature of adulteration, especially in the line of food and medicine. Public sentiment is ripe for such laws, and would give them a hearty approval.—*National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.*

**Pea and Green Fallows.**

Mr. F. Guy, writes in the *Southern Planter*, on this subject as follows:—

"My mode is first to sow rye or oats in the Fall; let it grow, and as soon as headed in May, I fallow in; then sow peas on the rough land, then drag in; but I always use lime on the land when I fallow in the peas, unless it has a plenty in the soil already, at the rate of thirty bushels per acre. By this mode I have made poor land produce twenty bushels of wheat per acre, and a good stand of clover. A better plan would be to apply 200 pounds South Carolina fine bone, and 200 pounds of kainit just before seeding the peas, then a light dressing of plaster, when the peas get six inches high; and use lime with the pea fallow in Tidewater, Virginia; the mountain counties having lime-stone in the land, would not need the lime, I imagine. The peas should be sown early in May—one and a half to two bushels per acre, and let them grow until about half the pods are ripe; hire women and boys to pick for five cents per flour-barrel full of pods, and you will save all you need for seed, plowing the balance in. There is no doubt in my mind, that green fallows are a great help, even oats, corn or peas; and I have heard a very reliable farmer, in fact two, assert that they had tried corn along-side of peas, and were surprised to find better results from the corn."

**The Kent County Agricultural Club.**

Had lately a very large and encouraging meeting, at which it was determined to enlarge the Exhibition Hall and make other important improvements in the buildings and grounds of the Agricultural Society of that county. The subject for discussion was the interesting one of, "Does it pay to use phosphate on corn?"

Messrs. J. W. Corey, W. W. Stephens, C. W. Kennard, W. Hubbard; T. G. De Ford, Ex-Judge Nicholson, and a representative of a Pennsylvania fertilizer, entered into the general debate. We can spare room only for the following extracts taken from the *Chestertown Transcript*, of what Mr. Corey said, and also what Mr. Janvier said:

"Mr. J. W. Corey took the floor and related something of his experience in the use of phosphates upon corn. He has been phosphating corn for the past seven years, and always with most satisfactory results. He generally applies from 300 to 400 lbs. to the acre. He generally drills in the phosphate before planting the corn. Where land is not so good, he drills in 300 lbs., and then mixes another 100 lbs. with black residuum and drops it in the hill with the corn; the purpose of the residuum being to keep the fertilizer from causing the corn to burn. He was satisfied that 400 lbs. of phosphate to the acre gave more than enough corn in excess to pay for the fertilizer. He has also found, that a corn crop that has been fertilized, is followed by a more abundant wheat crop. He has experimented in placing phosphates upon land that had been covered with barn-yard manure, and is satisfied that it pays to use both together.

E. P. Janvier gave a formula of his own for manufacturing fertilizer, and argued that he could buy cheaper and more satisfactory goods by buying the ingredients himself, and mixing them."

MEN of all ages who suffer from low spirits nervous debility and premature decay, may have life, health and vigor renewed by the use of the Marston Bolus treatment, without stomach medication. Consultation free. Send for descriptive treatise MARSTON REMEDY Co. 46 West 14th Street, N. Y.



### How to Enrich Pastures.

Put on a few more cows than the pastures will support for the whole season—say 25 per cent. more—or as many as will consume the grass while growing vigorously in the spring and early summer; and as soon as that begins to fail, supply the deficiency with some of the other rich foods named, using enough to keep up the flow of milk. This course may be continued 'till clover, peas, and oats, or fodder corn, can be given for soiling, to take the place of the dry feed, in part. By supporting the herd partly on grass, partly on dry feed, and partly by green soiling, the milk they will give above what they would produce on grass alone, will pay for all the extra feed and labor, and something besides as profit, and the large amount of rich droppings which will be scattered over the pastures will soon tell upon their fertility. It would pay to start up the pastures by sowing over them equal quantities of bone flour and land plaster, mixed, rather than to leave them as they are, but it will be much better to enrich them by extra feed, as that pays its own cost.

Top-dress the meadows in the fall with barn-yard manure, if you have any, and if not, do so early in the spring, with the finest manure you can get, leaving the coarser quality for ploughing under. The rich manure you will get from feeding well with rich food, will give your meadows a start at once, and repeated applications will soon give you heavy crops.—*National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.*

### Permanent Pasture.

There are several varieties of pasture grasses, the value of which seem to us to have been much underestimated, and which are well worthy of trial. Orchard grass we would give a prominent place in this list. Yet we come back, usually to timothy, red clover and blue grass as the leading varieties. Timothy and clover grow rapidly; give a large yield, and, consequently, can be relied on. Blue grass gets a foothold more slowly, but will finally take nearly exclusive possession of the soil. We should sow these three together. There is much difference in the practice of good farmers in regard to quantity sown. It rarely happens that too much seed is put on. The only objection to thick sowing is the in-

creased cost. A bushel of timothy to about four to six acres, a like amount of blue-grass, and half as much clover, ought to give a good stand. We have known good results from much lighter seeding, but there is greater probability of failure. The blue-grass will not be expected to make much showing the first two years.—*Breeder's Gazette, Chicago.*

### ENSILAGE.

Professor Caldwell, asserts that there is no longer any need to discuss the usefulness of this system of preserving corn fodder, as if it were doubtful question. Writing for the *Rural New Yorker*, he says: "When I see it stated that in one place silos are standing empty, and in another place such an ill-smelling product was turned out as almost to make men sick to stand near it, &c. I want to see how such farmers manage their affairs generally, before I accept their results and opinions as valid against ensilage. Familiar as every reader of the papers must be with the oft-repeated accounts of palatable, wholesome, and not ill-smelling fodder, often even good smelling fodder, that these silos yield if properly made and properly filled, I should be too much ashamed of myself if I got such bad results as these, and then talked about them; I would bury the stuff out of sight and try again, resolved to do as well as hundreds of others had done. I would as soon think, if I was a cheese-maker, of telling the newspapers that all the cheese in my factory had turned out rotten, and unendurably offensive, and of giving that result any weight against the system of preserving milk by turning it into cheese. It is only folly to say now, in the face of the experience of even only a few years in which ensilage has been tried here, that it must go or that there is any fear of its going; it has come to stay, and be useful to those who know how to make it so."

ONE pound of rice gives eighty-eight per cent. of nutriment, one pound of beef twenty-five per cent. And yet, says the *Journal of Health*, countless numbers of the poor strain at a point daily to purchase beef at fifteen cents a pound when they could get a pound of rice at one third of that amount, the rice, two, having three times as much nutriment as the beef and being three times easier of digestion.

## LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Stock in the South.

It is an adage older than the Christian era, "no cattle, no manure; no manure, no crops." It is a terse expression of a great truth. Grain farming must inevitably impoverish the soil for every bushel of grain sold off the farm is so much fertility taken away, and no return made. If the grain is fed upon the farm, nearly or quite nine-tenths of that which is valuable as a fertilizer for land, may be returned to the land by saving and applying the solid and liquid manure of the animals. The keeping of animals also requires the growing of grass for pasture, and this is a source of fertility.

It is acknowledged on all hands that the soil of the South, in common with that of other old, settled sections of the country, has been impoverished by bad methods of cultivation. In the South this work has been more rapid than elsewhere, on account of the slave labor employed to till the fields and also because of the character agriculture assumed, stock-raising being a minor feature. Now agriculture is on the *qui vive* in the South, and the wide-awake Southern farmers are endeavoring to undo the work of the past, and restore to the land the fertility of which it has been robbed. This they cannot do, unless they make stock-rearing an important part of their work. Where no stock whatever is kept, the fertility of the soil can be maintained only by such extravagant outlays for commercial fertilizers, that all profits will be destroyed and more, and the farmer will become too poor to purchase commercial fertilizers. Just in proportion as stock-raising assumes importance, will the wealth of the farm and the farmer increase. The condition of both the farms and the farmers of the South, make the need of more cattle there most urgent.

It is also important that good stock be raised. I would not advise the ordinary farmer to purchase what is commonly termed fancy stock—stock that sells at large prices rather upon the reputation of its ancestors and the length of its pedigree, than upon its own merits. But by all means the stock raised should be well bred stock. Scrubs may be profitably raised for aught

I know; but I do know that always the profits of raising animals of good blood are greater. Well bred animals make the most flesh and the least offal from the same amount of food; they mature earlier, and can be marketed at an earlier age; and their produce is of a better quality. It is easy to purchase well-bred, but not fancy, animals at about their true worth, and these only the Southern farmer should rear.

Dairying would surely be profitable in the South.

The South has a great advantage over the North in stock-raising—the mildness of her climate greatly lessening the need of shelter, and the season of winter feeding.

It is gratifying to learn that stock-raising is receiving more attention in the South. In Georgia the gradual adoption of the stock law, which requires owners of stock, to keep them in their own enclosures, at first reduced the number of animals by weeding out the worthless, but the very tendency of the law is to replace them with well bred animals, and this is being rapidly done. Jersey cows have been introduced into this State, and have created great enthusiasm. Throughout the state central fountains of pure blood have been established in nearly every county and from them will flow only good results. While in no department of stock industry is there a more decided improvement than in swine. In Alabama the stock law is in force in some counties and while it has decreased the number of animals kept, already the greater excellence of the animals has more than compensated for this. The cattle, sheep and swine interests are looking up, while mule raising is receiving quite an impetus. In Louisiana, improvement has but little more than begun. Short-horns and Devons have been used for crossing, and there are a few herds of full-blood Jerseys and Holsteins in the State. Throughout Tennessee the stock interests are growing and the animals are being improved. The best of the improved breeds may be found in this State, and their numbers, though limited now, are improving. In no other Southern State are the stock interests so bright as in South Carolina. In this State there are now in successful operation thirteen stock farms. At the last State Fair, the show of pure blooded cattle was exceptionally fine. Jersey cattle are receiving much attention; but the State can also boast



of some fine herds of Ayrshires, Devons, Holsteins, &c. What is being done by the energetic stock men of Texas is well known. In short, throughout the South the stock industries are growing. Their growth means better farms, richer farmers, and happier homes. May every circumstance favor their growth. JOHN M. STAHL.

### The Coming Horse.

The horse for which there is a vacancy in all markets is the American roadster of 15½ hands and 1,100 pounds weight, with three inches more of height and three hundred pounds of weight added, without any loss of his present unrivaled excellencies. Already in every direction there are sires that are within one hundred pounds of this standard, and they are fast growing in popular esteem and patronage. And it is inevitable that, in the natural course of things, the active, heavy horse will ere long be developed and generally diffused. To satisfy the demand this horse must walk with the plow, or binder, or loaded wagon five miles an hour; must trot three hours together twice a day, with with his own weight behind him, at ten miles an hour; and, as the most symmetrical form proves the strongest, he must have a form of perfect symmetry, and a step and carriage elastic, vigorous and graceful. To do his best he must be under perfect discipline and control, and have the highest culture, so that his intelligence, gentleness and docility must be conspicuous. Such a horse is needed not only on the farm-machine and wagon, but also on the hack, the coach, the express wagon, the single family carriage, the transfer wagon, the fire engine and the artillery-carriage and caisson; and is in increasing demand for stately carriages for our own and European cities. English buyers are coming regularly to our inland cities and paying high prices for roadsters of over twelve hundred pounds; and New York and Chicago dealers are watching the breeding districts, and paying from \$600 to \$2,000 per span for horses for exportation; while the French Government demanding ten thousand foreign horses a year, has just found the way to our shores. But the horses secured are wanting in weight and in the perfect education, essential for securing the highest prices.

Give us tests, which will compel stallion-ers to break, harden and develop their large horses, as smaller ones are fitted for racing, and which will teach the farmer the differences in size, capacity, strength and endurance, between different horses and different families of horses, and it will be of immense benefit to all who raise horses, to all who use them, and to all affected by their use. It is just as absurd to judge work horses without test at work as it would be to judge trotters and runners without test of speed. If the occupants of any judges' stand at a trot or race should come down and examine the horses and assign the purses according to their grooming, as is done with work horses, it would be exactly as reasonable and just as is the custom of judging work horses at fairs.—*Breeder's Gazette, Chicago.*

### Stock Growing.

To show how magnificent are the proportions that stock-raising has assumed in this country of late years, we give a statement about what the Western stock raisers are doing.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association was held at Cheyenne this week. The Association is one of the largest in the world, representing about 2,000,000 head of stock and \$100,000,000 of invested capital. A delegation of 125 persons was present from the Colorado Association. The meeting was the largest ever held in the Territory. Secretary Thomas Sturgis submitted a report, in which the questions of contagious diseases, a national organization of cattle breeders, the use of Government lands for grazing purposes, transportation and other questions of only local interest were considered. Resolutions were unanimously adopted, demanding national legislation for the suppression of contagious pleuro-pneumonia.

YOUR PAIN in the back; your Neuralgia; your Corns or frosted feet; or any bodily pains, can be cured by the use of Stonebraker's Liniment. Price 25 cents





Shropshire Wether. *Prairie Farmer* and Grand Sweepstakes Prize Winner at Chicago Fat Stock Show, 1883. Property of B. Waddell, Marion, Ohio.

We have above a correct picture of a pure Shropshire, which we are enabled to give our readers, through the editorial courtesy of that old, reliable agricultural paper of the great North-west, published in Chicago, and well known as the *Prairie Farmer*. At Chicago is annually held a great Fat Stock Show, where imported stock, Canada and American stock, all come in competition. At this show held last November, the *Prairie Farmer* offered several premiums, among them was one of \$30.00 for the "best wether in the show." For this, and the grand sweepstake premium of \$50.00 offered by the Society there were about twenty sheep contending. Mr. B. Waddell, Marion, Ohio, had 10 or 12 entries of Shropshire, for these handsome premiums, and carried off both with the Shropshire whose likeness is given above. He was a grand animal and perfect model

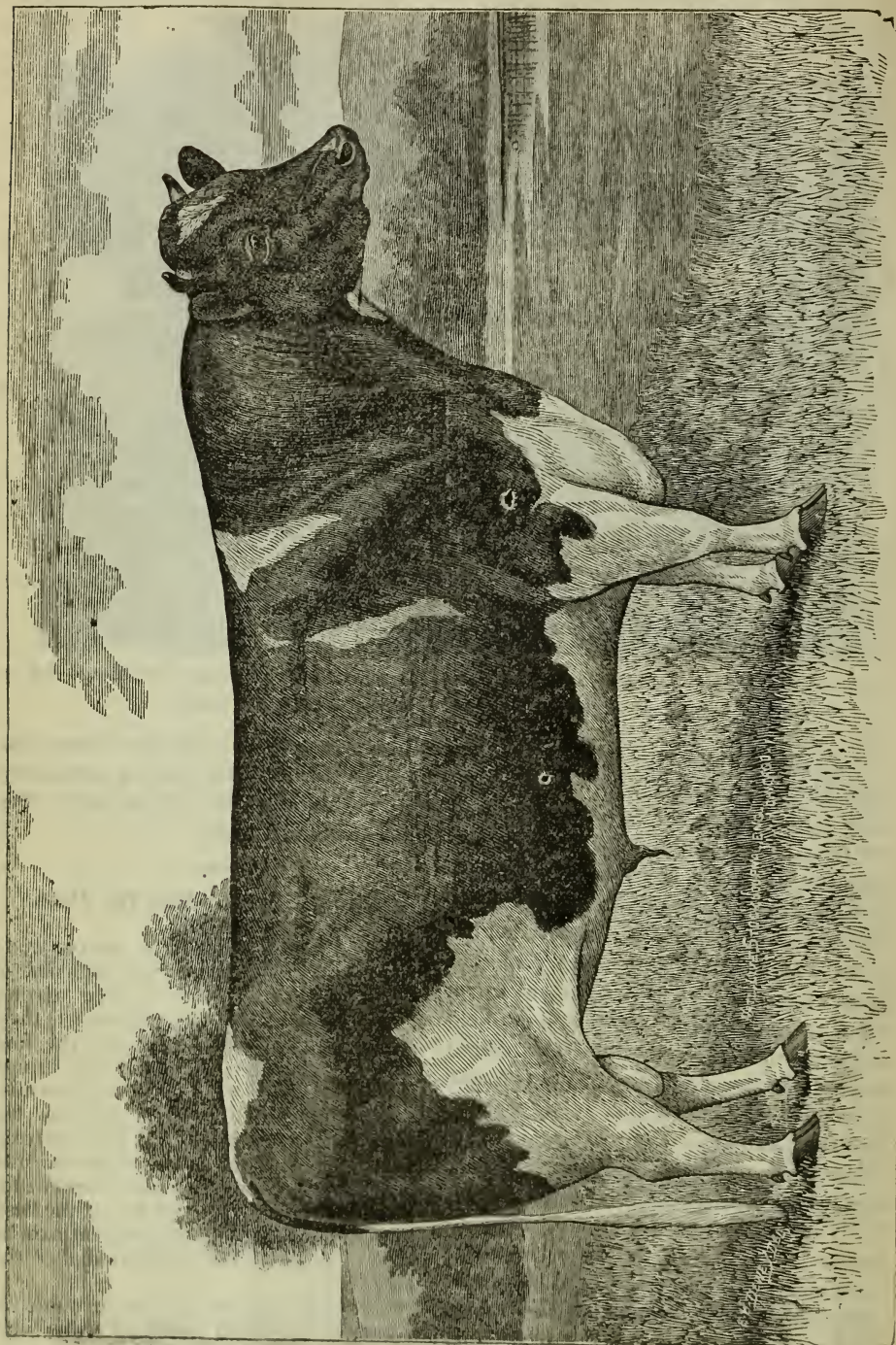
of his class, two and under three years old. This breed is growing daily in popularity and resembles much in appearance the renowned South-down.

#### Cleanly Surrounding for Pigs.

The important question is, can pig feeders afford to keep their pigs in such filth as breeds disease and death to their herds? When pigs have such foul wallowings, they seldom get any pure water, and the foul water contaminates the blood, and brings disease. It would be considered gross mismanagement for a dairyman to allow his cows to drink foul water. It is known that it passes through the blood of the cow into the milk, which becomes unwholesome for butter or cheese. And, as we eat the flesh of the pig, why should not as great care be taken to preserve his health as that of the cow?

For cattle, farmers go the trouble of making troughs and pumping water into





Imported Holstein Bull "De Joustier Steir" No. 1233, H. H. B., and No. 102, Fresian H. B.  
Property of Maplewood Stock Farm, Attica, N. Y.



them daily, where there are not clear, running streams, or of conducting water into them by pipes, where a spring is possessed high enough to admit of it. Human dwellings are considered more healthy when placed upon an elevation, and so likewise, should the swine house be placed high enough to have all the foul matters run from it, instead of toward it.

We once tried an experiment to see if pigs would use clean water in pasture in warm weather, to cool themselves and keep off flies. We constructed a shallow vat, ten inches deep, and sunk it six inches in the earth, so that the pigs could easily walk into it. This was filled half full of clean, clear water.

The pigs would go into this vat and lie down with the appearance of great comfort. This water was drawn off every two days, and fresh water supplied. The pigs not only used this water-vat, but abandoned a water-hole some fifteen rods from it, clearly showing their preference for clean water. This vat was used for several seasons, and always successfully. And it would be entirely feasible to use such vats for large herds, the expense being very little.—*National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.*

The opposite cut represents that famous bull "De Joustier Steir," owned by F. C. Stevens, Esq., of Maplewood Stock Farm, Attica, N. Y., and was the winner of the first prize and Sweepstakes at Illinois State Fair and at the St. Louis Fair; and first prize at New York State Fair. He was calved March 1880, and weighed last Autumn, 2,205 pounds. Maplewood farm is remarkable as owning this superior bull, and the famous cow Echo, whose picture and details of her milking and butter qualities we hope to give next month. Mr. Stevens is an importer and breeder of fine Holsteins or Friesian—Dutch Cattle—and has now about 20 high-bred bull and heifer calves, imported, and from 600 to 900 lbs. in weight for sale at the moderate prices ranging from \$100 to \$300 each.

#### „Rough on Corns."

Ask for Wells' "Rough on Corns." 15 cents. Quick, complete, permanent cure. Corns, warts, bunions.

## THE DAIRY.

### Cow with First Calf.

It is often the case when a heifer has her first calf, that the farmer thinks she will not give more milk than will keep her calf in good condition, and lets them run together to teach her the misery of being milked when she has her next calf. In this decision there are two mistakes that go far to spoil the cow for future usefulness. Cows, says a contemporary, are largely creatures of habit, and with their first calf everything is new and strange to them, and they readily submit to be milked, and think it is all right; but suffer them to run with the calf the first season, and a vicious habit is established that they will hardly forget in a lifetime. If they ever submit to be milked quietly, it is evidently under protest. But there is a greater objection than this—the calf running with the cow draws the milk every hour or two, so that the milk vessels are not at any time, distended with milk, though the quantity secreted in a given time may be large. But this is the natural time to distend the milk ducts, and expand the udder to a good capacity for holding milk. When, with her next calf, you require the milk to be retained twelve hours, the udder becomes hard and painful, and the milk leaks from the teats, or more likely nature accommodates the quantity of milk secreted to the capacity to retain it, and the cow becomes permanently a small milker. Much of the future character of a cow, therefore, depends upon her treatment with her first calf. Everything that disturbs the quietness of a cow impairs the milk, both in quantity and quality. To obtain the best results, therefore, there should be a regular time and place of milking, and as far as possible the milking should be done by the same person. Any cow can be milked dry in a few weeks by irregular milking, sometimes at intervals of twenty-four hours, and sometimes at six. Separation from her usual company, a change to a new location, a strange milker, and, above all, a blustering manner and scolding voice, are sources of irritation that more or less, impair the milking qualities of a cow. No cow under the influence of fear, will give her full quantity of milk.—*Exchange.*



**Corn-Fodder Compared with Hay.**

The superior yield and value of well grown and well cured sweet corn fodder as compared with hay is not sufficiently well known or considered by dairymen. The yield is at least three times as much as of hay. It can be grown after a previous crop, and from planting to harvesting requires not more than seventy days; it can be cured at less cost, and is equally nutritious and palatable as the best hay. In regard to it, the President of the Northwestern Dairymen's Association, Hon. W. D. Hoard, writes in a letter to the *Milwaukee Sentinel* as follows:

"Our dairy farmers are much better versed in corn culture, than in the other essentials I have mentioned. They have not generally learned, however the great value of corn sowed in drills as a substitute for hay as winter fodder. Hon. George F. Lord, of Elgin, keeps 100 cows on 300 acres of land, and has not raised a pound of hay for years. The corn is sowed in drills 3½ feet apart, and about the time it blossoms, it is cut with a self-raking reaper, cutting one row at a time, the machine throwing it off in gavels. When sufficiently wilted, it is bound and set in large stacks and allowed to cure, standing on the ground until winter sets in, when it is hauled to the barn. He secures a yield of about 7 tons of cured fodder per acre, worth as much as the best hay, and is thus enabled to devote a large amount of his land to pasture. He is one of the most successful dairymen in Illinois. One great advantage in growing corn fodder is that bad weather affects its value less than it does hay."—*The Dairyman*.

**VALUE OF PUMPKINS.**—The pumpkin contains six or seven times as much water as either corn or oats; in a word, it is a food in a state of much greater dilution. Analysis proves that even if the pumpkin should be freed from its large percentage of water, corn and oats remain much more valuable as feeding stuffs. While pumpkins cannot be recommended as fat-producing material, they possess excellent milk-producing qualities, and being cheaply raised, may be counted as valuable food for milch cows.—*N. Y. World*

**"BUCHU-PAIBA."**

Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney, Bladder and urinary Diseases. \$1. Druggists.

**Jersey Cream.**

There is one characteristic of the product of Jerseys seldom mentioned, namely, the superior richness of Jersey cream in butter. The general impression prevails that the great butter production of a Jersey lies in the large percentage of cream in the milk. Many are incredulous of the butter production from what to them seems a small amount of cream. Until quite recently comparatively few were aware of the difference in the butter-producing qualities of cream. The inch measurement adopted by the creameries was based on the false idea that "cream is cream, and one lot is as rich in butter as another." This assumption almost brought disaster to the creamery interest, and was the source of the "storage" which but for their change to the testing method, would have ended the creamery business in insolvency. The testing system has shown the wide difference in the butter production of cream, and will result in as great benefit to the dairy interest as anything that has yet occurred. It is also making a great change in the minds of many favorable to Jerseys, and is rapidly advancing them to their merited position as the dairy cow.

They have been styled in derision the "Gentleman's cow," the "fancy lawn cow," and the claims of her advocates as a dairy animal denied. Under the testing system this prejudice is fast giving away, and the creamery and Jersey interests are becoming identical.—*Breeder's Gazette, Chicago*.

It is common in some quarters to use any kind of salt for butter, but unless the best be used the butter will be inferior, and necessarily will sell low. It is economical to procure good salt for such purposes.

**SORGHUM FOR COWS:**—President McCanns of the Elmira Farmers' Club, fed sorghum to his cows last year and found in it unusual merit. He declared it the best green food that he had ever supplied to his cows, regarded as a milk producing food, and there was also the fact that his cows ate the sorghum greedily, thus proving its palatable quality. The best time to feed sorghum is when it has attained full growth, and the best kind of seed is that which has full vitality and of an early kind—amber cane is of this character.

## LETTER BOX.

*Editors of the Maryland Farmer:*

I send you a copy of an old-style advertisement, issued by your now publisher and Editor, when he located on Eutaw Street, as a general dealer in Agricultural Implements, &c. It is near on to 40 years since then, and what changes have taken place in all things! I wish you would re publish that advertisement as a souvenir of old times, old customers, and for the present subscribers to his admirable Monthly Magazine.

Yours Truly,

AN OLD SUBSCRIBER.

**Ezra Whitman** to his friends,  
This humble notice, greeting sends—  
To inform them that he has a Store,  
OPPOSITE THE EUTAW IN BALTIMORE;  
Where he Manufactures and keeps for sale,  
The following articles here detailed:  
Machines for Thrashing Oats and Wheat,  
That thrash and clean at once, complete;  
As these Machines beat all the rest,  
Of course they must be called the best.  
Such Railway Horse powers as we are making,  
Are not like others always breaking,  
For man and beast they have such ease,  
They cannot fail *all men* to please;  
Hand Mills that make the best of meal,  
With French Burr Stones, not iron nor steel;  
Fanning Mills, Cutting Boxes & Corn Shellers,  
We do not fear all other sellers;  
And as for Ploughs of any kind,  
We do not think we are far behind—  
We have the New York Wiley Plough,  
Made by N. U. Mott, our foreman now;  
Also the Boston Prouty & Mears,  
The Davis Plough with Wrought Iron Shears,  
The New York Empire, a premium Plough,  
And variety of others which we'll not name now:  
Clark's Smut Machines, not Young's nor Grimes'  
The greatest invention of the times.  
They do their work so neat and easy,  
We ask no pay if they do not please ye,  
Grain Cradles, Seed Sowers, and Lime Spreaders,  
Horse Rakes to use upon the meadows,  
Corn and Cob Crushers and all kind of Harrows,  
Trucks for stores and Wheelbarrows;  
Washing Machines, Churns and Pails,  
Shovels, Spades, Hoes and Nails;  
Ox Yokes and Hay Forks, by the score,  
And a thousand things—but I'll name no more.

Besides the articles by us made,  
We also keep a stock in trade,  
Consisting of Hardware, Iron and Seeds,  
And all such articles as the Farmer needs;  
And as we are about to make our ending,  
We will inform you, we do all kinds of *Mending*;  
So remember the place, and don't think us rash,  
When we invite you to call and bring your Cash!  
Baltimore, March 4th, 1845.

[In complying with the request of "an old subscriber," we were forcibly struck with the

fact, that notwithstanding all the improvements in machinery for the past forty years, nearly all the articles enumerated in the foregoing old circular, are still in daily use, and many of them are considered equal to any of the new inventions. This fact is somewhat creditable to the judgment then displayed in the selection of that stock as eminently useful to the continued wants of the husbandman.—Eds. MD. FAR.]

For the Maryland Farmer.

### The Carp Fever.

The carp fever spoken of by your Anne Arundel county correspondent, most certainly is spreading, and I think has come to stay; the reports we have in regard to increase in size and numbers, are most remarkable, but nothing beyond what may be expected under favorable circumstances. The cultivation of fish is destined to become as important among the American farmers, as the cultivation of grains, fruits, &c., and the growing of cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry. Farmers have long since ceased to leave these products of the farm to shift for themselves, knowing that in such a case either would be likely to come off second best, or die in the struggle. If, however, any person should imagine that the good results can be obtained, by filing an order or application for fish, and upon the receipt of the same deposit them in a pond or stream, and unaided to cope with their enemies of which there are many, such as snakes, turtles, fish-hawks, king fishers, herrings and others, I would say it would be advisable not to make the attempt.

The hardness and wide range of diet, rapid growth and good edible qualities especially fit it to be the precursor in fish farming.

I most fully believe every community is destined in the near future to have its fish ponds in the same abundance, that it has its pig pens, and poultry yards. The most important part, as stated by your correspondent, is their value as a table fish. I will give the views of myself and some others.

Thos. J. Adams, Jas. T. Bacon, Editors of the "Edgefield Advertiser," Edgefield, S. C., March 29th, 1883, addressed a note to their old friend, Capt. A. D. Bates, of Batesburg, the pioneer of carp-raising in Edgefield Co., begging that he allow them to spend a day with him, and test the qualities of the carp, his reply was, "come any day you please. Bring whomsoever you please, I shall be delighted, and you shall eat fried carp three times a day."



"At dinner, there were two dishes of them, 7 or 8 on each dish, fried. All of them were in size from one to two pounds; they were fried as shad are. And certainly, and in all honesty and sincerity—we have never tasted a more delicious fish. So far from being dry, they are precisely the opposite, though as they grow older, the flesh becomes more solid. They have but few bones; the lack-bone and ribs, with but few besides. As we ate of the fish, the thought occurred to us that perhaps there was more in the cooking than in the fish. We intimated this thought to Mr. Bates, who laughingly assured us that the frying process was of the very simplest, and that the fish were standing emphatically upon their own merits. In conclusion, we beg to say that if our personal and individual experience of the table qualities of the German Carp will be any encouragement to them in Carp raising, we again affirm, without fear of successful contradiction, that the carp is an exceedingly delicious fish, and well worthy of any pains that may be bestowed upon it. Signed James T. Bacon and Thomas J. Adams, Edgefield, S. C."

I consider the edible qualities of the Carp equal to Rock, Bass or Shad.

Respectfully Yours, E. H. REYNOLDS.

RISING SUN, MD., April 17th, 1884.

*Editor of the Maryland Farmer:*

Being a farmer, I was much interested in the article in the April number, written by A. P. Sharp of Rock Hall, Md., on the importance of good seed corn. Having lately tested by weighing, 15 samples of yellow corn, which was grown by as many farmers, all thought they had good corn, the result was from 75 to 87 per cent. shelled grain. The test fully demonstrated the larger the cob less the per centage of shelled grain from a given quantity of corn and cob. A further test of 100 ears of each was made.

100 ears large cob and corn weighed 113 lbs., shelled grain 84½ lbs. 100 ears of small cob and corn weighed 88 lbs., shelled grain 76½ lbs.

An acre planted 3½ feet distant, each way, contains 3,555 hills, one ear to the stock and two stocks to the hill would have 7,110 ears to the acre.

100 ears of large cob weighs 113 lbs., yielding 84½ lbs. shelled grain, the acre would yield 6,025 lbs. shelled grain, or 107 bushels.

100 ears of small cob weighs 88 lbs., shelled grain 76½ lbs., the acre would yield 5,439 lbs. shelled grain, or 97 bushels, a difference in favor of the large cob corn of 10 bushels to the acre.

Which of the two would be advisable to grow?

ENQUIRING FARMER.

#### World's Cyclopedia. Prices of Wheat &c.

*Gentlemen:*

I have received through your hands a copy of the World's Cyclopedia, and library of Universal Knowledge, containing 800 pages, every one of which contains useful information, and as you propose giving a copy and one year's subscription to Md. Farmer, for the trifling sum of one dollar and fifty cents I desire to say a word to those who hesitate to make the investment, and that is to advise them at once, to send along the sum, for I feel sure they will never regret it, for the information it contains is valuable to all classes, from a child to the President. My library is not a small one nor a cheap one, yet I have obtained information already from this volume, that could not be found among any of my books, and I know of no publication that contains such a variety of matters so important to all and of daily use.

It treats on all subjects connected with air, water, mineral and organic, either vegetable or animal, live or dead, living or extinct life. On the page giving the price of country produce for fifty years in New York, I find but three years when wheat was cheaper than the present price. In 1826, 90 cts., 1827, 93 cts. and 1843, 88½ cts., these being the three lowest. The three highest being 1855, \$2.57; 1867, \$3.00; 1868, \$2.45. In the midst of abundance of money, high price for labor, can the low price of wheat be attributed to over-production, or an abnormal condition of affairs? If everything else was not in the same condition of low prices, the former might be the true theory, but the latter seems to be the true state of affairs. The fact that wheat cannot be produced and sold at a profit at present prices, and being among all things the most indispensable, it must go up, to pay a living profit, and farmers would do well to keep out of the market the next crop as long as possible, for everyone seems to be a real *black-bear* on the wheat question.

On the same page I find the lowest price for corn was in 1825, 4½ cents, and the highest in 1865 when it reached \$1.95. Enclosed, find \$1.50 for which send a copy and the Farmer to H. H., Tuscumbia, Alabama.

Rock Hall, Md

A. P. SHARP.

Get it, Sure!

Wells' "Rough on Rats." Almanac, at druggists, or mailed for 2c. stamp.

E. S. WELLS, Jersey city.



**Our Letter Box.**

The pressure upon our columns has been unusually great, and hence we have deferred the following letters longer than we could otherwise have desired.

The following is from the pen of a young Maryland Lawyer, who has located in New Mexico, and will be found of interest to all readers, desirous to know something that is going on in the remote sections of our immense domain, and especially important to all who seek reliable information, before they leave their native heaths of the old States and "go west"

LINCOLN, LINCOLN Co.,  
NEW MEXICO, January 20th. 1884.

*Editors of Maryland Farmer:*

I redeem my promise made to you in December last, in the Monumental City, to write you a letter from this land of the setting sun.

We have been visited with a specimen of your Eastern winter here. Snow has fallen, and mountains and prairie are now wrapped in white. The snow only lies upon the plains here for a day or two. Some of our peaks however, are snow clad most of the year.

The winters in this county and the adjoining counties are mild, cattle needing no shelter, save what is afforded by the timber in the foothills arroyas. This county is as large as the two States of Connecticut and Massachusetts, running from San Maguel County on the north to Texas and Old Mexico on the south, a distance of about 250 miles. The Rio Pecos intersects the county from north to south, and with the small streams which are tributary to it, furnish water to the finest cattle country on the American continent. The rolling prairies are covered with nutritious grasses, such as the black gramma and Buffalo. The foothills afford living springs of water, and protection from the few storms we have in winter. Cattle need no feeding except such as is furnished free by nature, and require no shelter. The rainy season commences in July and is over by September. During this period the grass crop is made. The rolling table lands and foothills being covered with grass hip high, affording the annual supply of hay, which needs no curing. No rain falls after its maturing and there are no frosts to extract and waste its nutritious qualities; it is cured as it stands. Along our water courses, corn, wheat and oats, together with vegetables are raised in sufficient quantities to supply the home demand. Irrigation has to be resorted to, and comes usually from 2 to 3 cents a pound and cannot be raised for less. Wages are \$30 per month and board for cattle

hands. The herdsman or *major domo* getting \$50. There are some large ranches in our county. The Chisum ranche has nearly 20,000 cattle on it, and the range over which they graze is probably fifty miles long. There are other cattle men occupying portions of this range in common with Chisum. The Williams Co., the Anderson Co., the Lea and the White are also rich companies. All these, with many others, are on the Rio Pecos. The Corizogo or Alcock ranche is in the western part of the County. The owners are Englishmen; the managing director, Mr. Alcock, is an Irish gentleman, and lives on the Ranche—Monarch of all he surveys. Water and rights, or land with water on it, are being fast monopolized in this county, and a year hence, it will be impossible to procure a location, except for a high price, but there are preemptions yet to be found with splendid outlying range. The preemption of 160 acres, costs \$200. or \$1.25 per acre with about \$5 added for land office fees; the lawyer's fee ranging from \$25 to \$50. Homesteading, 160 acres costs about \$50, including the land office fees. In each entry occupancy is required by the law, but thousands of acres are being entered here and everywhere on the public domain, by bogus entries, false names, perjury, &c.; and the Land Dept. is now investigating the matter through special agents and detectives.

Cattle-raising yields the largest per cent. of profit with a minimum of expense or risk. In this climate 90 per cent of calves can be counted on; there are no diseases. The only expense for, say a herd of 500 cattle, is 2 men at \$25 to \$30 per month and 'grub,' which for the two will be \$20 more. The testimony in the Palo Blanco Cattle Ranche Case, just tried before Chas. J. Axfell, at Santa Fe, showed that it cost \$2.80 to raise a four-year-old steer, or 70 cents a year; and expert testimony proved this to be an extravagant price. Cattle men say, the cost with a herd of 1,000 and upwards, should not be over 45 cents per *capita*, per year. Our laws afford almost absolute protection to stock. Every man in the business has his brand, and that is recorded at the County Seat. Cattle cannot change hands without bill of sale, and counter branding shows change of ownership. The Cattle Association offers a standing reward of \$1,000 for arrest and conviction of a cattle-thief, and \$100 for setting fire to a range. The market of the world is at our doors. The Tex. Pac. S. P. & H. T. & S. F. R. R's being in short driving distance.

The climate is the finest I have ever found. The air is so pure and dry, that meat will not

spoil during any season. There is no malaria, no dew, no frost. The nights are cool in mid-summer—requiring blankets. Consumptives recover their health, and become robust. The country is yet virgin. The settlers are a generous-hearted people, always extending a helping hand to him who deserves it. Lawlessness is fast disappearing. There is ample protection to life and property.

My young friends from lower Maryland can not do better, than to sell out, stop raising to bacco and wheat on worn-out lands, buy an emigrant ticket and come here. A very small investment in cows, at from \$20 to \$25 per head, and five years waiting will make him independent.

In my next, (should you gentlemen wish any more of this screed,) I will tell you of our population, native and exotic; our manners and our manner of living, and what we live on.

Yours Truly, GEORGE T. BEALL.

[The writer of the above, will freely give any information to all who honestly think of seeking a home in New Mexico.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

For the Maryland Farmer.

#### A Great Grass for Poor Land.

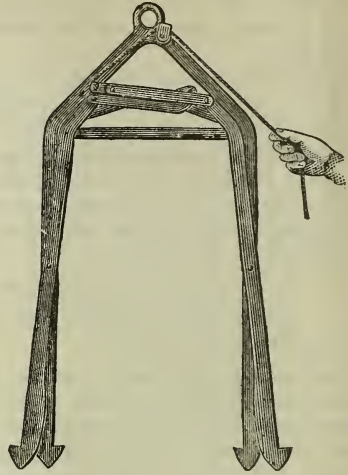
Perhaps some of your readers have rough, rugged, arid, and waste places, now worthless, and which they do not now see how to utilize. Well, nothing is easier than to make such places yield a handsome profit, by sowing them down with the perennial, *sorghum halapense*. It should be sown after the ground warms up in the spring. It makes excellent hay, and may be cut from three to six times a year, according to land and latitude, yielding from four to eight tons per acre at cutting. It will grow with less moisture than any other grass. Its roots are white, tender, as large as one's finger, and grow to the depth of a dozen feet, making an inexhaustible supply of excellent hog feed. It makes anywhere over 1,000 bushels of roots to the acre, and as many as 3,000 have been taken from an acre. It needs no cultivating, can be started without plowing, and where it once gets a start, it is there to stay, spreading by seed and roots until it runs out everything else. It gives good grazing, and equals blue grass or timothy in milk producing qualities. This grass is a boon to farmers and by it they can utilize all their now useless places.

Franklinton, N. C.

J. W. WALKER

[*Sorghum halapense*, is the common Guinea grass, known also as "Cuba grass." We have never heard its qualities as highly eulogized before. But as Mr. Walker seems so enthusiastically earnest, it might be well for others to try some of the seed, and give us their experiences. Perhaps some of our many readers, who have known this grass for years, will tell us what they know about its virtues and qualities.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

#### The Double Shear Fork.

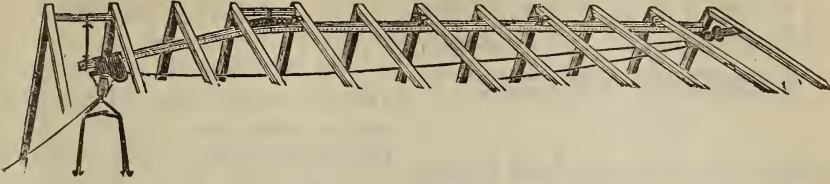


In presenting this valuable improvement to the public, we wish first to explain what is needed in a HORSE HAY FORK. A Horse Hay Fork should be so constructed as to take the hay the full width of the load with one draft, without scattering before it reaches the mow, and drop it in the same condition for handling as when on the load, and be of such a length as to reach half the depth of an average load, thus enabling the operator to reach the bottom of the load in the second tier of pitches, leaving little or nothing to clean up with a hand fork. It is also essential that the length of the fork above the hay to the pulley should be as short as possible, requiring less space to work the fork, and thus being able to fill higher in the peak of the mow. The lifting hooks should be as near the points as possible, in order to take the hay clean from the floor or rigging.

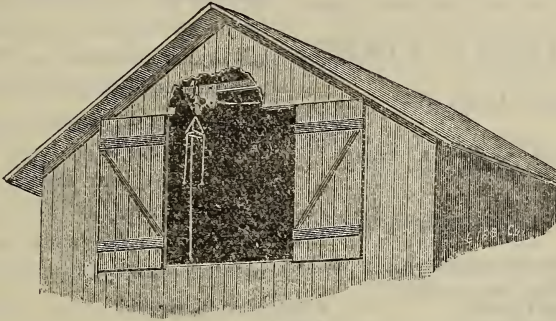
This fork it is said, will take the width of a load of the shortest hay, straw or barley without scattering it, is easy to set, as it has a cutting point, and will penetrate hay in all conditions, either damp or sweated, and has a flange on the cross-piece, to place the foot on to pack the hay at the top, and it can be set with the other foot without stooping. It trips easily, and when set for pitching, the two short bars form a firm brace in connection with the cross-bar, giving it all the strength required.

From the past three years' reports received, we fully believe this fork is all what is said of it.

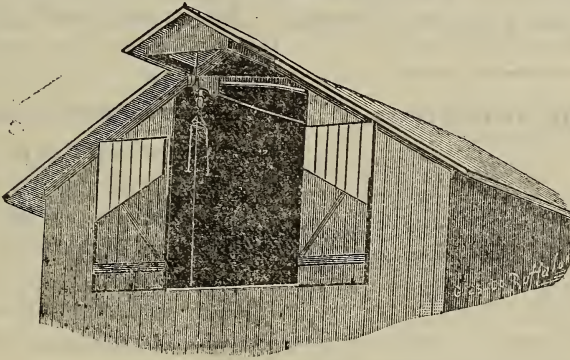




The above cut represents the Elevator and Horse Hay Fork, hung ready for use in the barn.



The above cut represents the Track and Elevator, hung in the inside of the barn' for pitching through the Gable doors, the boards above the doors being cut away to show the position of the Track and Elevator. This plan works very successfully, the bend in the Track enables anyone to adjust the Elevator at the proper distance above any Gable door, which cannot be done by other Tracks.



But the better plan is to open the doors to the peak, and put on a projection, as shown in cut. A cheaper way of putting on a projection, is to take two planks, 2 inches thick by 12 inches wide and 12 feet long, and place them on top of the roof at the peak, one on each side, letting them extend about 5 feet over the gable end, and bolt them fast to the rafters. Tie the front end of the Track to the upper edge of the plank, by boring a hole in each one.

The doors should not be less than 8 feet square, and if made to open to the peak, they should be in two parts, folding together from the top down, so as to swing clear of the roof. (See above cut.)

THE PLEURO-PNEUMONIA BILL, suggested by the Maryland Stock Breeders' Association, and passed by the late Legislature of Maryland, has been signed, we understand, by the Governor and therefore is now the law. Its contents we expect to give in our next issue.

# MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Live Stock and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor.

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

141 WEST PRATT STREET

BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, MAY 1st, 1884.

## TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

One Copy, one year in advance,	\$ 1 00
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Special rates for cover pages.

Transient Advertisements payable in advance

Advertisements to secure insertion in the ensuing month should be sent in by the 20th of the month.

Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

Subscribe at once to the Maryland Farmer and get the cream of agricultural knowledge.

## To Our Patrons.

As we now are well on our 21st year, we are sure our old subscribers will see the justice and propriety of renewing their subscriptions for 1884, and in doing so, settle all arrearages, if any are due us.

We do hope, as we have no travelling agents, that every old subscriber and every friend of the MARYLAND FARMER will use his or her influence to obtain for this year as many additional subscribers as possible. To prove our desire to extend agricultural knowledge, at the least possible cost, we will furnish our Monthly Journal at the low price of \$1.00 per year, and give to each subscriber who pays in advance a nice premium of one of either of the following books:

KENDALS TREATISE ON THE HORSE,

SCRIBNER'S LUMBER BOOK,

SCRIBNER'S GRAIN TABLES

Horses, Their Feed and Their Feet,—new.

And to such as will add 50 cents extra to the amount due, we will send a dollar book

## PALLISER'S MODEL HOMES.

GARDEN AND FARM TOPICS, by Peter Henderson, Price \$1 50, or with *Maryland Farmer* for one year \$2.00. See notice in this number of this work.

THE WORLD'S CYCLOPEDIA, price \$1.00 or with *Maryland Farmer* for one year \$1.50. See notices elsewhere of this book in this number.

Such offers of premiums will reduce the price of the MARYLAND FARMER to almost nothing, postage thereon being pre-paid by the publisher.

New First-Class Sewing Machines at Half Price.

PAYABLE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE  
"MARYLAND FARMER."



**CLUBBING.**—For the purpose of aiding our subscribers to an economical benefit of other Journals in our line, we have consented to club with the following for 1884:

The Breeders Weekly Gazette, Chicago, Ill., price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

American Angler, price \$3.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$3.25.

Live Stock Monthly, Portland, Me., price \$1.00; with Maryland Farmer, \$1.50.

Poultry Yard, Hartford, Conn., price \$1.50; with Maryland Farmer, \$2.00.

☞ All payable in advance.

#### SPECIAL NOTICE.

New subscribers who pay one year *strictly in advance*, will also receive free, in connection with the MARYLAND FARMER, twelve consecutive monthly numbers of the *Poultry Post*, an illustrated, and thoroughly practical paper, devoted entirely to the poultry interest. The *Poultry Post* is not an advertising sheet, but a legitimate publication, containing in each issue twelve or more columns of just such practical information upon the breeding, rearing, feeding, housing, and marketing of poultry, as is needed by and useful to every farmer, and it will be furnished to new subscribers on the above terms.

#### An Appeal to our Subscribers.

*If each one of our subscribers would take the trouble to visit a few of his neighbors, and set forth the advantages of the Maryland Farmer, at its very low rate—\$1.00 per year, postage paid, and a rich premium besides, he would be advancing the cause of Agriculture. Every one who will do this and send us the name and address of one or more subscribers, may be*

*sure that the paper and premium will be promptly sent as directed. We make this liberal offer in the full expectation that our list of subscribers will be increased to 10,000 during this year. Our Monthly contains never less than 32, and often more octavo pages of solid reading matter, both useful and entertaining, chiefly made up of original matter from the best agricultural writers of the day, not men merely of scientific knowledge, but practical men, who know of what they talk.*

#### The World's Exposition.

We have frequently spoken of this grand exposition to open at New Orleans, toward the close of the present year, and again refer to it, because of the daily occurrence of pregnant signs that it will be the most extensive and magnificent Exhibition ever held in Europe or America. All others heretofore held will be dwarfed, unless all present signs of success fail. Nearly all the States of the Union have as individual States, appropriated large sums for the exhibits of their special products at this great World's Fair. Those States like our own State of Maryland, that have made small appropriations of \$5,000 or \$10,000, relying upon the energy and praise-worthy enterprise of their individual citizens to contribute such sums as will enable the merchants, manufacturers, mechanics, agriculturists and all industrial classes to place before the eyes of the entire universe, the products of their skill and industry, as well as showing the great advantages of homesteads and employment near the sea-board. At this grand Expose, every man from the North Pole to the extreme Tropics of our Globe will see at a glance the natural and adventitious surroundings, and advantages offered by each competitor in the many spheres of human industry, comfort and

rational inducements to lead lives of worth, wealth and ease.

North Carolina, gained great honor by her exhibits at the Boston Exhibition of last year, but at New Orleans she will require 15,000 feet to hold her evidences of internal wealth in gold and other minerals, her precious stones, splendid building materials, such as marbles, &c., wines, cotton, rice, tobacco, and silk.

Why should old Maryland with all her advantages of location, and internal wealth, and her superabundant appliances, that nature has furnished for a cheap, healthy and luxurious home for settlers, be seen in the back-ground at this competition between all countries of the world? Her Legislature has given the paltry sum of \$5,000, it is true, but that sum would place her in a very humble position with her sister-States. But such a position must not be that of "Maryland, My Maryland." Her merchant-princes, capitalists, sturdy mechanics, honest miners, and the tillers of the soil, will, we have no doubt, contribute individually, both money and such evidences of her soil, her clime, and water-products, as will in some degree shadow forth the intrinsic value of her domain and the delights, offered almost for nothing, of a home within her realm.

European nations, will be fully represented, and our South American States will not be found wanted on roll-call. British and Spanish Honduras will be there in full force. Let Marylanders and our Border States at once rouse up and apply themselves to the task of being ready for this, the greatest Exhibition, we verily believe that has ever been held, and perhaps more creditable to this country, than ever again will be held.

#### Decline of Man.

Nervous Weakness, Dyspepsia, Impotence, Sexual Debility, cured by "Wells' Health Renewer." \$1.

To spread general knowledge and particularly agricultural information, we have arranged to furnish our subscribers and the public with the following two books "Garden and Farm Topics," by that eminent author and practical agriculturist, Peter Henderson, at \$1.50 per copy, or the book and Maryland Farmer for one year, at the small sum of \$2.00, *cash*. Also, "The World's Cyclopedia and Library of Universal Knowledge," to each new subscriber at \$1.50, or the book itself at \$1.00. This is the best and cheapest compendium of useful matter we have ever seen, and the amount of printed information, useful to all classes, can only be furnished at so low a rate, because of the immense circulation. Only think, a closely printed book of 800 pages and 1,200 illustrations, well bound and printed, for only \$1.00 and our reliable Monthly in connection therewith, for a year, at the reduced price of 50 cents. To see the book will be enough to induce you to secure both, at the low price we are justified in offering.

THE SPRING MEETING OF THE MARYLAND JOCKEY CLUB, will be held as usual on its Pimlico Track, May Meeting and continue four days. Larger purses and heavier stakes are offered than ever before. More famous horses in numbers, will be present to contend, and hence public calculations as to results will be increased. A greater meeting than ever, is anticipated by the lovers of this noble sport. The number of races each day will be from 5 to 6, mostly the latter number, and with the increased purses for each contest, must bring out all the "cracks" of the States, and necessarily an immense assemblage of both the female beauty and fashions, as also the solid men, who love such noble and exciting sport, both from the cities and country of Maryland, as well as from all our neighboring States.



**MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.**

—The annual meeting of the stockholders was held at Barnum's hotel in this city, last month, to elect a Board of Trustees for the current year. Mr. Otho Williams presided. A large majority of the stock was voted, and Messrs. J. C. Walsh, W. Johnson, E. Whitman, A. Dodge and J. F. Goldsborough were elected as the Board of Trustees on the part of the stockholders.

**A Valuable Fertilizer Discovered.**

At the Maryland Academy of Science, at its last meeting, an announcement was made that a new, and apparently inexhaustable, deposit of fertilizing material had been found on the land of Joseph Darby, Esq., 3 miles west of Laurel, in Prince Georges county. A sample was produced, together with a quantitative analysis of part of it by Professor Simon, a chemist of very high repute, and a discussion had thereon. The analysis shows it to contain phosphate of lime, 2.54; potash 1.70, equivalent to sulphate of potash 3.14; magnesia 2.60, equivalent to sulphate of magnesia 7.80. But it was claimed by those who had witnessed its effect upon corn and other crops, that its effects were much greater than the analysis would seem to justify. The deposit appears to be an extensive mica schist in a state of decomposition. It does not appear to be what is called a "high grade," but as it contains a considerable proportion of the main elements of crops in general, if the price is not graded too high, and the material liberally applied, it will doubtless be of great use in the surrounding country. It is all the better for the immediate neighborhood, that it will not justify the cost of transportation to a great distance, and we congratulate the whole vicinage on the fact. We shall have more to say of this discovery in a future number.

**Mother Swan's Worm Syrup.**

Infallible, tasteless, harmless, cathartic; for feverishness, restlessness, worms, constipation. 25c.

**Mr. Samuel N. Hyde's Farm and Cannery.**

One pleasant day in the latter part of March, in company with a friend we took a ride on the new Central Railroad, and stopped at Hyde's Station on said road, to visit our friend Hyde. We found him at the station, where he has a store and other buildings. Here too is a post office and an express office. The farm of Mr. Hyde is beautifully located in Baltimore county, in a delightful neighborhood, consisting of the improved farms and county seats of Messrs. P. T. George, Ed. Jenkins, S. Rankin, G. H. Williams, S. Patterson, and others. Mr. Hyde made his high reputation as a horticulturist and canner at Boothby Hill, Harford county. He now has this fine farm containing 400 acres of productive soil in a high state of cultivation. He plants annually 225 acres in his improved Egyptian sweet corn for canning, 80 acres in rye, and 40 in wheat. This farm cost at public sale about three years ago \$21,342, and Mr. H. has expended thereon in buildings and other improvements \$20,000. The canning factory he built is 160 by 32 feet, connecting with sheds and other necessary buildings, so that the whole presents one of the largest, most complete and convenient establishments to be found in this or neighboring States. During the canning season he employs 150 hands, and puts up 250,000 cans of corn, and last year canned also 200,000 cans of tomatoes, all of which were grown by himself or under his direction.

It is said that Hyde's brand of corn and tomatoes, sell for a large advance over other brands. This is attributed to the superiority of the articles used and to the extra care in putting up the vegetables, as for instance, the corn is cut from the ear by hand, instead of machinery. His specialties are Egyptian corn and "Maryland Wonder Tomatoes," each having been carefully brought to a high state of perfection by his judgment and long perse-

verence in selection and cultivation.

Mr. Hyde informs us that last year he had orders for 6,000 cans more than he could supply and that the present year he has orders for his entire product of canned goods. This shows how important it is to do all things well. Mr. Hyde has always been remarkable for his energy and enterprise, and we heartily wish him a prosperous career. W.

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A PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF THE DE LAVAL CREAM SEPARATOR.—A De Laval Cream Separator will be exhibited in practical operation opposite the American Horse Exchange, Broadway, between 50th and 51st Streets, during the week of the Jersey Cattle Sales, May 6—11, 1884, beginning at 8.30 A. M., daily.

This sale will be attended by the leading dairymen and live-stock breeders of the United States and Canada, and will afford an opportunity to see the practical work of this marvelous machine, as well as to buy cattle. Mr. Joseph H. Reall, is President of the De Laval Cream Separator Co., at 32 Park Row, N. Y.

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"THE ORDER OF THE RISING SUN," is an honor lately conferred upon our friend, Gen. Horace Capron, by the Emperor of Japan. It will be remembered by our readers that this distinguished gentleman, agriculturist and soldier was "Commissioner of Agriculture," and resigned in 1871 to accept a similar position from the Japanese Government. He so acceptably filled his office, that now, after eight years since he resigned the arduous position, the fruits of his labors have been so remarkably developed, the Emperor in recognition of the value of his services, has conferred on him this high honor.—The first we remember ever conferred on a citizen of our Republic.—This mark of esteem and recognized ability, is not only gratifying to Gen. Capron's many friends, but will be considered

as highly creditable to American enterprise and ability. A contemporary remarks:

"The work commenced by him, was not the simple improvement of the agriculture of Japan, as many have supposed, but comprehended the development of a great island of 35,739 square miles, which to that period had remained a *terra incognita*, and the inauguration of a State, with all the industries and appliances, scientific and practical, of a new civilization, the influences of which works have extended over the whole empire. It cannot be better explained than in copying the following abstract from a correspondence of our Minister to Japan as follows: "It may well be said there was no state in Yesso in the sense that men constitute a state when Gen. Capron first took charge of that Island, and it may also be said, that when he left it a state was inaugurated with the introduction of the various industries and appliances which will secure food, clothing and shelter to a nation."

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**Advertising.**—No portion of any paper interests us more than does its advertising department, and none that we scan more eagerly. It is a directory of the community and the State, the history of inventions and improvements, a panorama of the world's progress, an epitome of its events, and a sure index of either the prosperity or decline of the paper itself. A practiced eye can measure the standing of a paper by the character of its advertisements—*Ex.*

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THE Great Jersey Cattle Sale will be held in New York on the 6th inst.; see advertisement in this number of Md. Far.

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#### Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, Y.—\*





INDUSTRY GOOSEBERRY.

## HORTICULTURAL.

### The New Gooseberry.

Just introduced by those reliable and famous nurserymen, Messrs. Ellwanger & Barry, of Rochester, N. Y., is a great acquisition to the list of small fruits. A gooseberry possessing the desirable qualities for table and market has long been a desideratum. The best American varieties have failed to satisfy the requirements, being too small and not good enough. The Foreign varieties, wherever tried, have either mildewed more or less, or they have made a poor or unsatisfactory growth. Hence a large, handsome sort of good quality has been much sought after.

Although this is a foreign sort, yet Messrs. E. and W. say it has done well on their grounds for three seasons, and think it is "destined to revolutionize gooseberry

culture in this country," and they say it is a "vigorous grower, and an immense yielder, showing no signs of mildew." They therefore recommend it to all planters for either garden or market, being unequalled for size, flavor, productiveness and vigorous growth. The above cut shows size of the fruit. The season is so behind time this year, that it is not too late for our readers to obtain one or more of these extraordinary bushes for planting out this month. Price 75 cents each or \$6.00 per dozen. This fruit is dark red in color, hairy, with pleasant rich flavor.

AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS IN 1884 — From the edition of Messrs Geo. P Rowell & Co.'s American Newspaper Directory, now in press, it appears that the newspapers and periodicals of all kinds at present issued in the United States and Canada reach a grand total of 13,402. This is a net gain of precisely 1,600 during the last twelve months, and exhibits an increase of 5,618 over the total number published just ten years since.

**Large Sweet Potatoes.**

We give a cut of some large sweet potatoes grown in California by Mr. E. M. Hamilton and reported by a correspondent of that superb horticultural paper, *Vick's Illustrated Magazine*, from which we obtain the electro', and the fact that by sub-irrigation, in reddish, gravelly soil, planted in and among a lemon and orange orchard, from a single vine were grown 14 potatoes, weighing 58 lbs.; the largest weighing 8 lbs. They were of the Strasborg variety. Why cannot our growers of this popular esculent, equal this or exceed it?



For the Maryland Farmer.

**Orchard and Garden Hints.**

BY J. W. DARROW.

What shall we do with our orchards? They are getting so unproductive, is a question often asked. It always seems that the question can be answered in two words, "manure them!" Very few farmers in this country ever think of manuring their orchards, as they do their grain fields. They do not treat trees as crops, depending on the soil for their nourishment and consequent productiveness. Then, some who do give the matter attention put the manure in wrong places, close about the base of the trees. It does about as little good just then as possible. Spread it out as far as the limbs extend, away! And it would be better for the trees if the whole surface of the ground could have a good dressing of manure. We visited an orchard last fall, when the trees were fairly bent down with fine fruit, (Baldwins,) when no other orchard in the county could show even a fair crop. But sheep were kept almost constantly in this orchard. The trees were vigorous, and not a worm's nest among them. The product of 50 trees sold for \$800. Good care pays!

Save the ashes and use them! Both coal and wood! Coal ashes are not in very good repute as fertilizers, but they are no doubt of considerable value on heavy

soil. Scatter them over the ground this spring, if you have not done so before. It is better, also, to work wood ashes into the soil before the seed is planted therein. They have in this way quite a considerable value as fertilizers. They may be applied to onions, but not too thickly, and can be used to a good advantage in the orchard. Avoid applying them directly to root crops.

Not unfrequently one finds that his young trees have been girdled during the winter by rabbits or by mice, and he wants to know what to do with them. There are several remedies. Grafting clay made of common stiff clay, mixed with half the quantity of cow manure, may be applied to the wounds, or when the girdling is not great, common grafting wax can be used to keep the bark from drying, and for healing the wounds. If the inner bark is altogether eaten away, your last resort will be to connect the upper and lower portions of living bark with cions, leaving, perhaps, a bud on each. The cions are to be cut slanting at each end, the slant in both cases being towards the tree. Then apply wax and bandages until the wound heals. This requires considerable care and skill, but can be done successfully.

Green corn is a luxury in many places, largely because its season is so short, or rather it is permitted to be so short. Any man who owns a garden, can just as well have green corn three months of the year, as three weeks. How? Plant the "Marblehead Early," or Minnerite," or "Naragansett" about the middle of May; or better make two plantings ten days or so apart.



Then two plantings of "Crosby's Early" perhaps, about the last week in May and the first week in June. Then two plantings of "Stowell's Evergreen," and later two plantings of "Marblehead" early in July. This may furnish sweet corn longer than you want it, but not if you live near a city market. But before you plant, be sure of having good seed; if you don't you will have only yourself to blame, if your long season of grain and corn is a failure.

Chatham, N. Y.

### Watermelons.

Water-melons are a considerable market crop in Maryland and the South Atlantic States, and of course many persons are interested in the growth of this business, and the magnificent vine production. Hence we give whatever we find either new or interesting, written about its cultivation, history, &c. In a late number of the *Rural New Yorker*, that distinguished agriculturist, Gen. Cassius M. Clay, says:

"The watermelon is in my estimation the first of all the fruits of the world. I have cultivated it for more than half a century, and it has been all the time, and is yet, my favorite fruit. Nature kindly suits her products to the climate and the support of animal life. The watermelon is a diuretic and sudorific, and holds pure water with sugar enough for considerable nutrition. Taken in its perfection, it is a great conservator against fevers and other summer complaints. On the other hand, unripe, stale and decaying, watermelons are very unhealthy and promotive of cholera morbus and other ills.

#### QUALITIES:

symmetrical shapes; thin, brittle rinds; red meat, solid, and, when ripe, slightly granulated, sweet and juicy; seeds small and few in a melon. I have seen yellow-meat watermelons that were first rate, but as this fruit mixes with other sorts most readily, it is best to have none but the red meats on the same lands. \* \* \*

As soon as the melon plants show themselves, the surface should be stirred at once with a large knife or narrow hoe, and the soil outside of the hills may be plowed with light shovel plows, or, which is better, with

a three-shear cultivator, and so continue to the end, always killing the weeds before they make a mat; otherwise the crop will fail. When the vines begin to run well, the hoe must be used where the cultivator fails to reach. \* \* \*

#### GATHERING.

When the fruit is ripe, none but a careful, experienced person should enter the grounds. He should be armed with a long stick, so as to steady himself, and have time to seek a place for his footsteps, or to place them under the vines in moving. When a melon is ripe it loses its metallic sound when thumped with the finger, giving back a dull sound, apparently coming from the neighborhood of the rind. They should therefore be gathered in the early morning as the sun gives them the semblance of ripeness by its daily heat. When the vine is vigorous and the tendril or curl opposite the fruit-stem is dead, the melon is ripe. When the rind seems sun-burned or the under side is white, you have good assurance that the melon is ripe. But the best test of all to the experienced grower is the dull thud of the melon. Melons should never be pressed to test their ripeness, as they are thus ruined. And when gathered they should be put in a cool cellar with a few inches of vine cut with them, when no other fruit is on the same branch, and they will keep well then for many weeks. When eaten, they should be cut in equal parts, and one half with a spoon given each guest, that the best parts may be used by all, and the juices saved and utilized. When the number will not allow this generosity, the next best way is cut them with circular rinds, so that a portion of the core falls to each one, as that is the best part of a good melon."

[We see a cultivator of this fruity vegetable tried successfully, the old experiment with potatoes, on a patch, i. e., after the plants begun to "run," he plowed the ground between the rows and hills, and then covered the whole plowed surface with straw 10 inches deep, pushing it close to the plants growing on the hills of very slight elevation. Afterwards no work was given, the mulch kept down the grass and weeds, retained moisture, and the vines run and bore splendid fruit free of dirt and

all without the trouble of working or any liability thereby of injuring the vines which are very sensitive to any disturbance. It would be well for such of our friends who believe in growing potatoes under straw,—by which process it has been proven that heavy crops of fine quality can be grown without the labor of cultivation—to try on a limited scale this new plan of raising watermelons. Certainly this method will improve the soil, if not add to the crop and thus the lazy man can take his ease assured that the ground at least will be benefitted, even if the crop is not increased in product and value.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

## LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Whatever is Worth Doing, is Worth Doing Well.

Last month I wrote a short mission to young girls, urging them to improve their idle moments and prepare themselves for future usefulness. Now I want to say a word to mothers. While you are toiling and struggling to make a living for your family, spare no pains to improve their morals and manners, and you will daily see their young and beautiful natures unfolding under your care like some rare and exquisite flower; make companions of your children; talk to them freely; let them know the many sacrifices you are making for them, and their little hearts will respond warmly, that you will feel half the burden falling from your shoulders, it is a relief to talk your troubles over. Please do not understand me to encourage a complaining disposition, not at all, for "having food and raiment let us herewith be content." Nor that I would have their young hearts burdened with care, nor their cloudless brows furrowed by the vicissitudes and anxieties, incident to this life, although hard to bear, perhaps it is best for them to learn in the "days of their youth" that man must live "by the sweat of his brow." Many a lady is reared in affluence, and at the death of parents is left entirely destitute of all worldly goods. She is taught to paint, play right well on the piano, know a little French, and altogether makes a very good appearance. But if she is brought to poverty she finds to her sorrow that she is not well enough accomplished in any of these arts to support herself. I know a lady in Illinois,

who, although wealthy, is having all her daughters taught some occupation wherefrom they can support themselves in case of adverse fortune. Mothers of the present day are actually cruel if they do not teach their children to do everything well, and thoroughly qualify them as masters of the kitchen, school room, dress-making, or piano, competency in either of these will insure her a good support.

Lastly, have faith. Do your duty. For "He knoweth our walking through this great wilderness," and as He journeyed with the children of Israel, even now, He is journeying with us.

MIZPAH.

Will some of the correspondents of the Maryland Farmer please give instructions for raising chickens with incubators and artificial mothers?

### To Our Juvenile Readers.

We are glad to see that our young readers of the Maryland Farmer have taken such an interest in our first essay at Enigmas offered for solution. Already eight have responded with the proper answer—CULTIVATOR.

W. H. K., of Harford Co.; Miss L. F., of Baltimore Co.; C. L. H., of North'd Co., Va.; Miss L. J., of Kent Co., Md.; P. F. S., of Syracuse, N. Y.; J. H., A. K. C., and H. G. L., of Maine, each of whom having answered before the 25th inst., is entitled to one year's subscription of the Maryland Farmer as soon as they comply with the terms we offered in our last number. The Puzzle Column is herein continued on same conditions as heretofore offered, to each young person. To wit, each one returning correct answer by 25th of May, is entitled to one year's subscription to MARYLAND FARMER at half price, 50 cents each per year.

### NUMERICAL ENIGMA.

The whole, composed of 17 letters, is a welcome visitor in many homes throughout the land

The 11, 14, 5, 7 is a vehicle.

The 1, 3, 17, 15 is a limited space of time.

The 2, 16, 8, 4 is an instrument for steering a ship.

The 12, 9, 6 is remote.

The 13, 10 is an article.

"BEULAH."

THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT to supply the Brooklyn Public Schools with twelve Pianos, has been made to Messrs. Wm. Knabe & Co., this being the number required, the award was made after a test of merit. The Board of Education determined to secure the Piano which they believed to be the best in the market, without regard to the difference in price. After a thorough examination, the Knabe Pianos were unanimously chosen.



### Premiums for Corn and Chickens.

It gives us pleasure to publish the following from Dr. H. L. Naylor, and hope the young people about Pikesville may thereby be stimulated to try their energies in those two useful employments:

PIKESVILLE, Md., April 15, 1884.

*Mr. Editor*.—At a meeting of Garrison Forest Grange held on above date, the Committee on Premiums made the following report: Your committee to whom was awarded the subject of premiums to encourage industry and skill among children, beg leave to report that they recommend

1st. That a premium of \$15.00 be awarded to the boy not over 15 years of age (within a radius of six miles of Pikesville) who shall raise the best  $\frac{1}{4}$  acre of corn, giving a clear statement of his manner of doing it, including nature of soil, previous crop, preparation of ground, fertilizing, subsequent culture, kind of corn, gathering and measuring, and estimating of fodder.

2d. That a premium of \$10 be awarded to the girl not above 12 years of age who shall raise and exhibit the best and most chickens from 2 settings of 15 eggs each, and shall give the best essay on the subject of rearing chickens. Unanimously adopted. The committee of the Grange to judge the work and award the premiums are Mrs. E. A. Bennett, Richard H. Maynard and John T. Councilman.

### Journalistic.

THE MANHATTAN—This monthly magazine is published at Temple Court, New York city at \$3 per year in advance. In paper, illustrations, typography and well-written matter it is a gem. In form and make up it resembles Harper, the Century, and other like leading monthlies. In most respects it rivals, and in some, we think, excels its compeers. The April number had a critical sketch of Edwin Booth, with his portrait and many illustrated scenes from plays, in which the chief characters have been so famously delineated by him. We strongly recommend this magazine to our literary readers.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for May, 1884.—The scope and variety of this Magazine—leaving wholly out of view its artistic beauty—is apparent from a glance at its contents. In a single number we find contributions from an eminent German writer, a first-class French artist, a distinguished English novelist, the most piquant of American historians, the most popular of Amer-

ican story-writers, an expert ophthalmic surgeon, the most thoughtful of Southern authors, an Oxford professor, an officer in the United States Navy, and the newest London poet.

AMERICAN SHEEP BREEDER AND WOOL GROWER.—An illustrated monthly magazine, published in Chicago at only \$1. per year. This is a well printed and conducted monthly, just started last month, devoted to this great national interest. We welcome it into our brotherhood of agricultural monthlies and wish it the success it merits.

### Publications Received.

From Department of Agriculture:—The excellent and valuable Report for 1883.

From Secretary T. S. Gold, his "17th annual Report of the Connecticut Board of Agriculture." This is one of the ablest and most interesting reports we have received from Boards of Agriculture for a long time. It is well worthy of a thoughtful perusal.

From Messrs. Riley, Packard and Thomas, "Third Report of U. S. Entomological Commission." It is a handsome volume, profusely illustrated with accurate maps and drawings, and is an able and elaborate treatise on the many subjects discussed. Such work is beyond price to the American people.

From R. Clarke & Co., Publishers, Cincinnati, "Sorghum," an exhaustive treatise of over 500 pages, by Prof. Collier, Ph. D., upon the culture and manufacture of sugar, syrup and fodder from sorghum. Illustrated, price \$3. Every man engaged in the culture of sorghum would do well to obtain a copy of this remarkable work.

### Catalogues Received.

FROM Ellwanger & Barry, No. 5, descriptive of fine roses; also their supplementary list of novelties and specialties in grapes, fruits, &c.

FROM T. S. Hubbard, Fredonia, N. Y., a neat descriptive catalogue of grape vines and small fruits, described and illustrated.

### Notice of New Advertisements.

In our advertising columns will be found mention of the studs of Poplar Grove Stock Farm: Cyclops 2035, Orestes 1920, and Avonmore 2255. There is certainly an array of choice trotting blood but seldom found upon any stock farm, and our lovers of a good roadster or track horse cannot pass by this stud without a word of admiration, and should only be glad to have

the opportunity to patronize such an establishment as is now booming up at Poplar Grove.

**CYCLOPS.**—Fine in color, beautiful in form, massive in structure, turning the scales at 1,297 pounds, standard in breeding and of Maryland's best blood, has shown good bottom by always trotting his last heats the fastest, down to a 2.22 gait, only a few days after leaving off his stud duties, is certainly wonderful, when we know that this was done under the circumstances and without a systematic course of training. That he will prove successful in the stud is generally conceded by horse men, for he has had no campaigning and long training to wear away his propagating powers. There is no reason why Cyclops should not be a popular stock horse in Maryland. His last year's get have sold already at high figures.

**ORESTES 1,920.** Is more thoroughbred looking in his appearance, and it is predicted that he will go fast; certainly if there is anything in breeding, he has his share of speed lines, though not as yet trained he can show a good 2.50 clip. He is probably the best bred Clay horse in Maryland, and fillies from him should be much sought after as brood mares.

**AVONMORE, 2255.** Is royally bred and shows a slashing gait for a colt of his age. He unites the blood of Pilot, Jr.; Mambrino Chief; Alexanders Abdallah, Rysdyke's Hambletonian; Almont and Strathmore. It is not to be wondered at that Mr. Emory restricts his stud use to his own mares this season. It is but proper that he should not be overtaxed in his youth so that he may be able to give a good account of himself at a ripper age, when he will be offered to the public.

Mr. Emory has greatly increased his horse stock during last season, his stud now number over 50 head. Lovers of young, fine stock will do well to visit Poplar Grove.

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### Mother Swan's Worm Syrup.

Infalible, tasteless, harmless, cathartic; for feverishness, restlessness, worms, constipation 25 cents.